Ottawa metro

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SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 36

STARBUCKS CLOSING ITS BAKERIES

metroBUSINESS

LIVE 88·5FM

Ottawa metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015 | High 27°C/Low 13°C Mainly sunny

LOVE ANSARIAN STYLE
metroLIFE

MIKE CARROCCETTO / FOR METRO

FEELIN' SAUCY

Jessica Mangum, left, and Shelby Joy show off a rack of ribs on Sparks Street Mall on Wednesday. The two Kentucky gals are here with Texas Outlaws for RibFest, which runs through Sunday.

Legionella has union concerned

DISEASE

Public Service Alliance upset with handling of health issue

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

The largest federal public servants' union is concerned about the way the federal government handled a worker in a downtown office building who was diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease.

"The fact is that they say they have not identified the source yet, so that's a concern," said the Public Service Alliance of Canada's Bob Kingston, co-chairman of the public-service-wide health and safety policy committee.

"There's still a lot of missing information."

Citizenship and Immigration employees were notified Monday that a person working in Jean Edmonds Tower North at Slater and Kent streets was diagnosed with the illness and has since fully recovered.

There's no indication that the office tower was the source of the disease, but the building's cooling towers were cleaned last week.

Kingston said his main concern is that members of the workplace health and safety committee weren't notified immediately and haven't been involved in the clean-up process. Instead, he said, workers "are being informed after the fact, and being told, 'trust us.'"

"None of them were involved in doing all this stuff, as the Canada Labour Code requires," he said. "People may want to exercise their right to deny dangerous work, but they were effectively denied that by being kept in the dark."

The risk of getting Legionnaires' disease — a severe form of pneumonia — is generally quite low. However, it can be deadly.

Public Works says elevated levels of Legionella bacteria were discovered in two government buildings in Gatineau — 30 Victoria St. and 200 Place du Portage. Decontamination was immediately done at both buildings.

Last month, elevated levels of Legionella bacteria were found in the cooling tower of Place du Portage III, also in Gatineau. Public Works officials said at the time that the bacteria did not cause anyone to get sick and the risk was low for employees and visitors.

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Association backs off shrinking carry-ons. **Business**

Mammoth move needed for new museum exhibit

NATURE

Addition of iceberg part of an overhaul of the facility

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

The Canadian Museum of Nature's woolly mammoths are moving to make room for a giant iceberg.

Don't worry: the popular life-size sculptures aren't facing extinction, or even moving that far. Their relocation from their current spot along O'Connor Street is part of the museum's sweeping overhaul of its western grounds.

Work on the new Landscapes of Canada Gardens will begin next week, with the entire park area of the museum's west side fenced off until November.

The landscaping will transform the site into zones that represent three different ecosystems of Canada: Arctic tundra, boreal forest and prairie grasslands.

The centrepiece of the Arctic area will be a 40-foot-high stainless steel sculpture of an iceberg, roughly where the woolly mammoth sculptures are now. The mammoths, commissioned 30 years ago by the museum, will move closer to the existing picnic area on McLeod Street.

The Museum of Nature's 30-year-old woolly mammoths are on the move. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

Museum President and CEO Meg Beckel said museums are increasingly becoming social and civic destinations, and the museum wanted to augment visitors' experiences outside the building.

> **The Arctic tundra is something we're especially interested in sharing with our visitors.**
> Museum President and CEO Meg Beckel

"It's about extending our programming and educational mandate, and using every square foot of space that we have available," she said.

The iceberg sculpture was designed by renowned artist and explorer Bill Lishman. Lishman is known for pioneering the use of ultralight aircraft to lead migratory birds, which inspired the 1996 film Fly Away Home.

"The Arctic tundra is something we're especially interested in sharing with our visitors because not only is the Arctic a major area of research here at the museum, but it's also 40 per cent of Canada's land mass," Beckel said.

The proposal for revamping the museum's western grounds was put forward in early 2012 and approved by the National Capital Commission last month, Beckel said.

Beckel wouldn't divulge the cost of the project, citing contractual obligations, but did call it a "significant investment."

She said the landscaping project has been generally well-received by neighbours, though some were concerned about preserving the current opportunities for dog-walking.

For each of the three zones, the museum is adding new plants or trees that can typically be found in those regions. The layout also includes areas for "natural play" including a log trail, boulders and pathways and a space in the prairie area will also be cleared for an open-air classroom or gathering place.

PARLIAMENT HILL SHOOTING

Mayor backs report's censor

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson is standing behind the city's decision to censor each and every one of the 94 recommendations contained in an internal report into Michael Zehaf Bibeau's attack at the National War Memorial and Parliament Hill.

Metro recently obtained a copy of a March 2015 report on the city's response to the Oct. 22, 2014, shooting under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The document contains a sweeping set of recommendations, which cover areas such as lock-down procedures, access to buildings and the roles and responsibilities of elected officials during emergencies.

But the city won't divulge any of those 94 recommendations, citing Section 7 (1) of the Act, which protects "advice or recommendations of an officer or employee of the city or consultant retained by the city."

Metro has filed an appeal to Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Watson was in Toronto on Wednesday and unavailable to comment on the censored parts of the report. But his spokesman says the mayor stands by City Clerk and Solicitor Rick O'Connor's decision to keep the recommendations under wraps.

The city did, however, release a section of the report in which it is praised for its response on the day of the attack.

STEVE RENNIE/METRO

OC Transpo has launched a new campaign to promote an online tool for anonymous reporting of harassment. COURTESY OC TRANSPO

Anti-harassment campaign begins

TRANSIT

Advocate says anonymous reporting is key

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

OC Transpo officially launched its new online anti-harassment tool on Wednesday.

The online form allows users to anonymously report incidents of verbal or physical harassment. It's accompanied by a full promotional campaign with ads around the city, encouraging riders to "let OC Transpo know" if they feel threatened.

"We just want to make sure that folks who report are believed and feel safe in reporting," said Erin Leigh, executive director of the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women, a group that worked with the city on the tool.

Leigh said the ability to report anonymously is crucial, and that encouraging third-party witnesses to report harassment "reflects the community-on-a-bus framework."

> **We just want to make sure that folks who report are believed.**
> Erin Leigh

"We may see what looks like a spike in incidents, but that doesn't necessarily reflect the actual increase in incidents. What it may reflect is the increased trust in OC Transpo," said Leigh.

OC Transpo's previous reporting system was by call-in or email. It wasn't integrated into the website, meaning it was hard to track data, and didn't allow anonymous reporting.

Ottawa Police said the new system would allow for data compiling and tracking "hotspots" so police know where to focus safety efforts.

"We need to emphasize that when you are riding OC Transpo, you are part of the community, the community on the bus," said Cumberland ward Coun. Stephen Blais.

BUDGET

OC Transpo looking at $3.5M deficit

OC Transpo is blaming cold weather for lost revenue. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

OC Transpo may be known for its bright red vehicles, but that's not a colour it wants to see on its books. So far this year, the transit service is running a $3.5-million deficit.

Transit general manager John Manconi said the "cold, cold, cold" winter we had was partly to blame for the unexpected costs.

The extreme weather meant extra maintenance and longer staffing hours.

"We had to do prolonged idling of our buses last year because of those deep, deep freezes," he said. "When it's cold, mechanical things break."

While costs were up, revenue from fares was down by more than half a million dollars.

While advertising offset some of the money lost, revenue was still $400,000 under budget.

That loss in revenue was caused by a dip in ridership and the switch to the Presto pass system.

The first quarter is still early in the year, but Manconi said OC Transpo is already looking at where it can save money.

"We'll be looking at every opportunity to save where we can – vacancies, miscellaneous expenses, all sorts of things," he said.

"We want to be cautious on how we budget, and take a conservative number both on ridership and on budgeted revenue." HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

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REPORT

Ottawa growth on target

No news is good news for the city's annual development report on the state of Ottawa's economy and building trends.

"This report shows we have a stable economy and there are excellent signs of confidence, such as major private sector investment in new retail space," reads a quote attributed to Mayor Jim Watson in the news release.

While there are not many startling numbers, there are a few highlights: Ottawa is growing in population, intensification is on target and we have more shopping options than in 2013.

The report goes to the planning committee on Tuesday.

Development by the numbers:

1. The city is growing. Ottawa's population grew almost one per cent in 2014, ending at 951,725 residents by the end of the year.

2. Is Ottawa a shopper's paradise? The city added over 155,000 square metres of retail space in 2014. Empty storefronts were at four per cent in 2013 but have now dropped back down to 1.7 per cent in 2014.

3. The housing market is stable—for now. The average house being resold in Ottawa rose 1.2 per cent, to $363,161. According to the report, Ottawa's market is "still considered balanced."

4. Building slowdown. New housing construction in the city decreased 11.9 per cent in 2014.

5. Now renting. Ottawa's 2014 vacancy rate was 2.6 per cent, below the amount required to allow existing buildings to be converted into rentals.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Survey says Canadians still 'bewildered' by TFSAs

MONEY

Test done by Mackenzie Investments

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

After the federal government's decision to double the contribution limit to tax-free savings accounts, a new study shows Canadians continue to be confused by them.

According to a Great Canadian TFSA Test by Mackenzie Investments, Canadians still aren't familiar with the basic elements of the program six years after it was introduced.

"There is so much discussion surrounding TFSAs but when it comes to understanding them, Canadians are still bewildered," Carol Bezaire of Mackenzie Investments said in a release.

"Canadians still have misunderstandings about the basics of the program.

For example, many people don't realize you can hold TFSAs outside of banks and the accounts can hold a broad range of investment options such as stocks, mutual funds and bonds."

Nearly doubling the tax-free savings account contribution limit to $10,000 per year was a core tenet of the Conservative government's 2015 budget.

51%

Only 51 per cent of Canadians answered three or more of the TFSA survey questions correctly.

The opposition parties criticized the move as one that favours the wealthy and could saddle the federal government with revenue problems down the road.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau has said he would lower the limit back to $5,500.

The survey of 1,558 Canadians, conducted by Leger, asked five true or false questions.

Only 51 per cent of Canadians answered three or more correctly; that's a slight uptick from 44 per cent in a 2009 survey.

Among the questions: "An individual can own multiple TFSAs" (that's true; only 39 per cent answered correctly). And "Like an RRSP, contributions to a TFSA are tax-deductible" (that's false, only 53 per cent answered correctly).

The survey results are based on a Leger national online survey that was conducted between May 19 and 22.

The results are considered accurate for the overall population to within plus or minus 2.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

FESTIVAL

ALL JAZZ HANDS ON DECK

René Brisbois is one of the many volunteers helping get the JazzFest stage ready at Confederation Park in Ottawa, Wednesday. Jazzfest starts Thursday and runs through Canada Day.

MIKE CARROCCETTO/FOR METRO

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NDP Leader Tom Mulcair talks to reporters in Ottawa on Wednesday. FRED CHARTRAND /THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Ready for a change'

POLITICS

Mulcair lashes out at Harper in Ottawa, lauds federal workers

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

Tom Mulcair kicked off his pre-election summer tour with a raucous rally Wednesday night in downtown Ottawa, railing against the Harper government and positioning his party as champions of the middle class.

"After 10 long years of Stephen Harper and the Conservatives, Canadians are ready for change," the NDP leader told a crowd of more than a thousand people at the Shaw Centre. "Middle class families are working harder, but falling further behind," he said. "For the first time in our country's history, current generations will be worse off than their parents. But it doesn't have to be this way."

Mulcair listed the NDP's priorities, including its national child-care program, a $15-an-hour minimum wage, a 20-year, $1.3-billion annual transit plan and its plan cut the small business corporate tax rate from 11 per cent to nine per cent.

Catering to the Ottawa crowd, Mulcair also spoke at length about the importance of the federal public service, which he said has low morale after 10 years of the Harper government "waging war against it."

"Mr. Harper views the public service as an obstacle to his authority," he said. "He doesn't pursue the success of the public service because he doesn't believe in it in the first place."

Mulcair said a hard-working, efficient, and non-partisan public service is the "backbone a modern democracy."

He addressed public servants in the national capital region directly, thanking them for their "unwavering commitment and tireless service to making Canadians' lives better," and asking for their support in the upcoming fall election.

The NDP has been positioning itself as the government-in-waiting and the best alternative to Harper's Conservatives.

Polls suggest the efforts are working: The NDP is surging while the Liberals have slipped after leading for many months.

OC TRANSPO

Cracking down on dodgers
Time is up for people trying to get away with sneaking onto OC Transpo buses.

The fine for not paying has been raised to $150, and there will be no more warnings for those caught not tapping their Presto card.

"We're not giving warnings. We're out of that, period," said general manager John Manconi. "If we check your Presto pass and you didn't tap, we will be issuing a ticket."

In May, an annual report showed that more verbal warnings were given out than fines. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

BEECHWOOD CEMETERY

Police offer first look at memorial

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa police are unveiling the first phase of their new $300,000 police memorial Thursday at Beechwood Cemetery.

The memorial project, which has been in the works for more than three years, is being built to provide a gathering space for officers to mourn fallen comrades.

Thursday's ceremony will mark the completion of the front flower bed and a rock wall recognizing the five police services that founded the present-day Ottawa Police Service: Gloucester, Nepean, Old Ottawa, Vanier and the OPP.

Phase two of the project, known as the Parade Square, will be developed in the coming years.

Police said $80,000 has been raised so far for the project, which will have four phases once completed.

"The development of the Memorial Cemetery is well underway, and I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all our sponsors for their contribution to the realization of phase one," Chief Charles Bordeleau said in a news release Thursday. "This distinguished and solemn venue allows us to recognize OPS members."

The ceremony will begin at 5 p.m.

A rendering of phase one of the memorial. CONTRIBUTED

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Hip hop throwdown pairs DJ Premier with local crusaders

BACKSTAGE PASS

Babylon event gives nod to grinders out on the streets

Trevor Greenway
Metro | Ottawa

DJ Premier plays Babylon this Thursday with a handful of local talent. PHOTO COURTESY MONSTER ENERGY

It would have been easy for Babylon Night Club to book DJ Premier, slap a $40 ticket on it and fill the bar with sweaty, hip hop-loving revelers for a pretty profit.

But they didn't.

They did book arguably the biggest DJ in hip hop, but have paired him with a slew of homegrown talent — everyone from local DJs, breakdancers and clothing companies to on-the-ground promoters and a chef who makes the best damn chicken and waffles in town.

For owner Adam Kronick, showcasing local talent is the bar's "raison d'être."

"Obviously DJ Premier playing is fantastic, but we wanted to have an all-encompassing night of music and culture and one where we could showcase some of the people that are working hard in the local hip hop community," he says.

"So, we have put together a full hip hop throwdown like people haven't seen here in quite some time."

And when he mentions "local talent," he isn't referring to wannabe DJs throwing together Biggie and Tupac mixed tapes in their parent's basement. The hip hop scene in Ottawa is as healthy as gluten-free dieters and Thursday's lineup is the proof in their fat-free pudding. The list of local selectors, artists, and B-boys and B-girls shows just how deep hip hop culture is in the nation's capital.

Kronick didn't want to just have a big headlining party without giving a nod to the grinders out there on the streets — the ones responsible for keeping the scene bumping.

He has seen the tireless work local booty shakers have been putting into the hip hop landscape and this is his way of paying them back.

That's why he has brought two-time art battle champion Omar "Oms" Hopkinson in for a live art demo. It's why he has made room at the back of the bar for a B-Boy and B-Girl breakdancing battle courtesy of Ottawa's Flava Factory.

It's why he has Chef LeRoy from Detroit Soul Food cooking up his signature chicken and waffles and deep-fried Oreos.

He's making time for the little guys — even amongst a show with big names like Pump and Premier — and it's not going unnoticed.

"These types of shows are my favourite," says Ian Lloyd, a.k.a DJ Illo, who grew up listening to DJ Premier.

"More than just a superstar DJ up on a stage, but an actual evening of culture. A little bit of everything that the city has to offer that contributes to all the elements of hip hop culture. Great music, dancing, food, and a little bit of history at the same time. Something for the 'old heads' and the younger, more impressionable kids alike. The exact ones I used to be like."

And to top it all off, the show is cheaper than the price of a decent burger in Ottawa. Your $15 will be well spent on Babylon's Thursday night and your soul will be filled with musical treats and sweets.

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CONFEDERATION PARK FISTS FLY FOR FITNESS Olivia St-Jean, right, throws a few jabs at co-worker Denise Schwarz during a noon-hour fitness workout in Confederation Park on Wednesday. About a dozen Export Development Canada employees were led through a boxing fitness session by Jo Henley (not pictured). MIKE CARROCCETTO/FOR METRO

Local musician talks Polaris nod

BACKSTAGE PASS

Vieux Loup a personal look at psychology, redemption

Trevor Greenway
Metro | Ottawa

Rolf Klausener has been a catalyst for Ottawa's music scene for several years. But the local musician is much more than just a party promoter. He plays in several bands, including Silkken Laumann and The Acorn.

Klausener just scored a Polaris Prize nomination for The Acorn's Vieux Loup. We chatted about what the nomination means to him.

You've been nominated for a Polaris Prize for a second time. Does the nomination feel different after being immersed in Ottawa's music scene for close to a decade?

No, the nomination doesn't feel any different. I'm just as shocked and humbled as I was then.

Having spent the last four years off the road, I can say that Vieux Loup definitely feels much more of the city than the previous, 2010 album No Ghost did. The city's experimental scene, underground DJ culture and the community in general factored heavily into making the record what it is.

> **This is probably my favourite album of mine to date**
> Local musician Rolf Klausener

Vieux Loup sounds a bit exploratory at times. Was it your intention to take risks on this album?

Risks are relative. I think with every record, I'm really just trying to articulate a thought and I just let my instincts guide how that thought is articulated.

Vieux Loup took a couple years of research to write. I was looking into human patterns and how our psychology fails us sometimes. It also looks at ideas of leadership, our moral guidance systems and ultimately the idea that any failing can be redeemed. The song Artefacts details that redemption.

What do you like about the album? Why do you think it made the Polaris long list?

This is probably my favourite album of mine to date. It's definitely the most personal and simultaneously the most universal. All my other records had such weighty conceptual themes that it was really freeing to take time away from the project, live life and come back to it with a strong sense of desire to communicate.

This is an edited version of the interview. Visit metronews.ca for the full transcript.

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Depression, diseases linked

REPORT

Patients with MS, cancer susceptible to mental illness

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Up to half the people who suffer from a chronic disease such as diabetes or cancer will also suffer from a mental illness — mainly depression — as a side effect, according to a new report released Wednesday.

HealthPartners, a collective of 16 health-related charities, released the Chronic Disease and Mental Health report during National Public Service Week to drive home the message that mental health in the workplace is at "crisis level."

"Every day half a million Canadians — 500,000 working people in this country every single day are sick. They call into their workplace because of depression," Eileen Dooley, CEO of HealthPartners, told a news conference at The Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre.

HealthPartners CEO Eileen Dooley speaks at The Royal Ottawa Mental Health Care Centre about a new study analyzing the link between chronic disease and the onset of mental illnesses on Wednesday. JOE LOFARO/METRO

And according to data from the Canadian Mental Health Association, people who suffer from chronic illnesses like multiple sclerosis, stroke and dementia are the ones hit the hardest with depression.

Dooley says the link between the two types of disease has been overlooked.

> **500,000 working people in this country every single day are sick. They call into their workplace because of depression.**
> Eileen Dooley, CEO of HealthPartners

"Most people think that mental illness or depression is a completely standalone disease, that it is situational or perhaps it's a problem related to addictions or some kind of chemical imbalance in the brain. People don't often make the connection," she said.

Mental illness can also affect a caregiver, the report said. Individuals looking after someone with dementia are "twice as likely to suffer from depression as those caring for a person without dementia."

Such was the experience of Myra Conway, who became a caregiver for her 57-year-old husband, a Canadian diplomat, after a diagnosis of Alzheimer's.

She said attending an information session on the disease made her feel even more isolated as the group was mostly people in their 40s with parents who had the disease.

"I felt totally alone in the world. It was the worst time of my life," said Conway.

But after being invited to a support group, she made it a monthly routine to share her ups and down with others who were in the same boat as her.

"The group helped me stay strong," she said.

"We can get consumed (with) the person we're caring for and forget about our own life."

IN BRIEF

Ottawa's best gardens featured on new map

Looking for a garden in the city? The Ottawa Garden Council is trying to make your search just a little bit easier this summer.

The local group is working on putting together a map of all the public and semi-public gardens that have been established throughout the city.

The group says gardens that have already been added to the Community Garden Network will be included on the new map.

The map will be frequently maintained and be easily searchable for users.

The organization is encouraging anyone who wants to have a garden listed on the Ottawa Garden Council's new map to contact them by email at info@gardensottawa.org.

More information can be found at http://www.gardensottawa.org/Garden_council.html.

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Michael Chan speaks about the Toronto 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games in August 2013. Premier Kathleen Wynne says CSIS concerns that Chan was under the influence of a foreign government are "baseless." GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Chan dismisses CSIS allegations

POLITICS

Minister slams claims of Chinese influence

A provincial cabinet minister says a newspaper article about concerns from Canada's spy agency that he was under the influence of the Chinese government is little more than a rehash of debunked, "ludicrous" allegations.

The Globe and Mail reported Tuesday that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service warned the Ontario government in 2010 that Michael Chan may have been susceptible to Chinese influence and had "unusually close ties to Chinese officials."

In a statement today Chan says the article repeats five-year-old, unfounded suggestions and notes that the paper itself at the time in 2010 called the allegations "reckless, foolish and contradictory."

Premier Kathleen Wynne says Chan, who is now the minister of citizenship, immigration and international trade, has served with honour in the Ontario government and is one of the hardest-working people she has ever met.

Chan told the Globe and Mail that CSIS alleged he owned property in China and had asked the then-consul general directly for a visa and that if favours were granted, reciprocation could be expected — allegations he said were not true.

"The body of the article contains a blend of innuendo and half-suggestions," he wrote in his statement Wednesday.

"Although there are no specific allegations, provocative words like treason and espionage are used for no reason. There is a persistent theme that there is a perceived risk that I am under undue influence and that I am an unwitting dupe of a foreign government. This is offensive and totally false. This personal attack is deeply offensive to me and to my family."

Wynne, who defended Chan the day the article was published, continued to do so Wednesday.

"There are some who may believe that there is something sinister about maintaining deep ties with one's country of origin, or one's culture,'' the premier wrote in a statement. "I believe the opposite and so do millions of Canadians who have immigrated to Canada."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Man barricades himself inside Canadian Tire

A man armed with at least one high-powered gun barricaded himself inside a Canadian Tire store in Timmins on Wednesday.

Timmins police Insp. Mike McGinn said the store's alarm went off around 4 a.m. and employees found an intruder when they arrived.

"The target of the break-in was firearms and there are firearms that have been removed," McGinn said.

The man was armed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LET THE GAMES BEGIN

Toronto unwraps Pan Am condoms

The city of Toronto now has its own customized condoms.

The condoms in round city-branded wrappers feature a selection of designs, including some with a Pan Am Games theme.

All of them bear the logo "condomTO" and one version of the wrappers says ``LET THE GAMES BEGIN.''

Toronto Public Health says it hopes the snazzy packaging will help reinvigorate condom use and help promote safer sex in the city.

It's the second year in a row that the city has designed its own condom wrappers, following similar initiatives in other North American cities.

The condoms will be available for free at a number of locations, including visitor information centres, sexual-health clinics and some public-health partner agencies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SENATE SCANDAL

Accountant tells Duffy trial about famous $90K payment

A government forensic accountant who delved into Mike Duffy's finances testified Wednesday about the trail taken by the notorious $90,000 payment to Duffy from the prime minister's former chief of staff, Nigel Wright.

Mark Grenon, who was contracted by the RCMP to examine the embattled senator's accounts, was testifying for a second day at Duffy's trial.

He said the Wright money was first transferred from an American account to a Canadian account on March 25, 2013.

The funds were then moved to an Ottawa law firm, Nelligan O'Brien Payne, and subsequently into Duffy's bank account.

> **I don't think this was done with the intent to hide.**
> Mark Grenon

The Receiver General of Canada then received $90,172.24 from Duffy, Grenon added.

Before this all unfolded, Grenon said Duffy was involved in other financial activities.

On March 22, Duffy refinanced his home in an Ottawa suburb for $91,600. Grenon said $80,000 was transferred to Duffy's line of credit on the same day.

Duffy has pleaded not guilty to 31 charges include fraud, bribery and breach of trust. The single bribery charge relates to the $90,000 payment.

During court proceedings, Duffy's lawyer said the Receiver General would have been under the impression the payment came directly from Duffy.

"It makes it appear, doesn't it, at the end of the day ... that Nigel Wright's $90,000 ... came from Sen. Duffy?" Bayne asked.

"In the eyes of the Receiver General? Yes it does,'' Grenon said.

Grenon also told court money could have been concealed with the advice of a forensic accountant.

"Look, I didn't say he did it perfectly," Bayne said.

Mike Duffy

"I don't think this was done with the intent to hide," Grenon said.

The RCMP also investigated Wright, but no charges were laid.

Wright maintained he gave the senator the money to ensure taxpayers did not have to foot the bill for Duffy's questioned expenses.

Ontario Justice Charles Vaillancourt still has to determine if Grenon's testimony will be entered as fact for the purposes of the trial.

Proceedings will last until the end of the week before the trial goes on a summer break.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SOCCER FIFA IN OTTAWA Four-year-old Sofia Ruffin (centre) gets some help making a sign, from her aunt Meaghan O'Meara (left) and mom Ashley O'Meara in Ottawa, Wednesday. The three are residents of Virginia and came to Ottawa to cheer on Mexico over France during a FIFA soccer match at Lansdowne Park. MIKE CARROCCETTO / FOR METRO

Report card marks may yet be on way

LABOUR ISSUES

Public board facing heavy backlash in community

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

After a heavy backlash, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board is wavering on its decision not to release report card marks for elementary school students in JK to Grade 7.

The board originally said students in most elementary schools would be getting a "letter of promotion" instead of grades due to strike action by teachers.

Three thousand elementary teachers and 160 administrators normally share the task of inputting report card data, according to the school board. Without the help of teachers, the board had decided it was too big a job.

"At that time, we also indicated that marks were still being submitted to principals by our elementary teachers and that we would be reviewing those submissions to assess how that information might be shared with parents," reads a release sent out by the school board Tuesday night.

"We are currently in the process of doing that review and are developing a district-wide process that will be put in place to share the information submitted by teachers."

Director of Education Jennifer Adams said the original decision was not made lightly.

Adams said the board looked at hiring temporary staff or getting other unionized employees to complete the work.

The board also asked teachers to input the marks on paper into individualized forms, but the teachers union refused.

"We had to make some challenging decisions and we looked at a number of options throughout this process," she said. On Monday, Adams said the board was unsure how marks would be submitted and couldn't predict how easy or difficult it would be for the administrators to input the data.

> **"We looked at a number of options throughout this process."**
> Director of Education, Jennifer Adams

Many parents volunteered to undertake the data entry, but there were concerns about privacy. "There's privacy issues there—it's a really nice gesture but a parent with a child might not like the idea that a neighbour is having access to their child's student achievements. We can't be disturbing the grades of other children," said Adams.

A similar change of plans was made by the Toronto District School Board on Tuesday.

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Unsafe driving is often deadly

SAFETY

OPP vocal in most fatal year for off-roaders since 2009

Ontario Provincial Police say this year has already seen the highest number of off-road vehicle deaths since 2009.

They say that by this time last year, there was just one off-road vehicle fatality on record within their jurisdiction.

A nine-year-old boy and a 17-year-old are among nine people who died in recent off-road vehicle deaths investigated by the OPP this year.

Police say that their investigations have revealed that alcohol was a factor in five of the incidents, while speeding was involved in three of them.

They also say five of the people who died were not wearing a helmet.

Police are urging all off-road vehicle users to wear a helmet every time they ride, regardless of how short a distance they are travelling.

"This spike in fatalities serves as a harsh reminder that unsafe off-roading keeps costing riders of all ages their lives, leaving families devastated and struggling to understand why their loved ones did not stay safe while out riding,'' said Chief Supt. Chuck Cox, commander of the OPP highway safety division.

The OPP says it is urging off-road vehicle enthusiasts to wear a helmet every time, no matter how short a ride they plan to take.

The force is also warning people to avoid alcohol or drugs in off-road vehicle outings and to keep their speed under control so that they don't lose control of their vehicles. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nine

The number of off-road vehicle deaths investigated by the OPP this year. 2015 has already been the most fatal year for off-road driving since 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **Unsafe off-roading keeps costing riders of all ages their lives.**
>
> OPP Chief Supt. Chuck Cox on a root cause of fatal off-roading incidents

The number of off-road vehicle deaths has spiked this year.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Peterborough man charged with sexual assault

A Peterborough man faces charges in connection with the alleged sexual assault of a young girl in the city.

Peterborough Police began an investigation last Friday after getting information about alleged sexual offences against a girl under the age of sixteen that began on May 13 and continued until last week.

They say the man and the victim knew each other.

Ryan Dewagner, 27, was arrested on Tuesday and charged with sexual interference with a person under 16 years of age, invitation to sexual touching under 16 years of age, sexual assault on a person under 16 years of age, luring a person under 16 years of age by means of telecommunication and failing to comply with a probation order.

He was to appear in a Peterborough court on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HYDRO ONE

Grits pick IPO underwriters

Ontario's Liberal government has selected Scotiabank and RBC Capital Markets as underwriters for its controversial initial public offering of Hydro One.

Passage of the Liberals' omnibus budget bill earlier this month cleared the way for the sale of 60 per cent of Hydro One, the giant transmission utility that also serves as a local electricity distributor for 1.3 million customers.

"This decision marks the next step in a robust selection process that will allow broad ownership of Hydro One to help support investments in transit, transportation and other priority infrastructure projects," the government said in a news release.

"Denis Desautels, a special adviser to the Minister of Energy and former Auditor General of Canada, reviewed the selection process to ensure fairness."

The government hopes to raise $9 billion from the partial sale, with $5 billion earmarked for hydro debt and $4 billion going to fund public transit projects.

"Broadening the ownership of Hydro One is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario," says the news release.

"The four-part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, building public infrastructure like roads and transit, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives and building a secure retirement savings plan."

The sale will begin with an IPO of 15 per cent.

The fees for Scotiabank and RBC Capital Markets will be set at one per cent for institutional investors and three per cent for retail investors.

The passage of the budget bill also removed oversight by legislative officers such as the auditor general and ombudsman, a move that both opposition parties have criticized.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

$9 billion

The amount of cash the province hopes to generate by selling off 60 per cent of Hydro One. More than half of that amount is earmarked for hydro debt.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

1.3 million

The number of customers who rely on Hydro One as a local electricity distributor across the province.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

SALE SAFEGUARDS

Province taking precautions: Premier

Premier Kathleen Wynne has said the Liberals took steps to protect the public in the sale of Hydro One by ensuring that no one individual will own more than 10 per cent of it, that the Ontario Energy Board will continue to set prices, and that the government would retain control of the utility by owning at least 40 per cent of it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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POLICE

Chief welcomes provincial carding rules

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa police chief Charles Bordeleau said he welcomes the province's plan to regulate police street checks, even though some in Toronto are calling for an end to the practice they say amounts to racial profiling.

On Tuesday, Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi announced the province will soon introduce new rules to standardize the practice of police stopping people on the street and asking them to identify themselves, commonly known as "carding."

"Our aim for this regulation is to prevent unjustifiable police stops for no reason or without cause," Naqvi said.

Bordeleau said Ottawa police conducted approximately 6,000 street checks in 2014.

He called them a useful tool in "preventing and evaluating and investigating crimes."

If police receive a complaint from a resident about a suspected drug house, for example, officers conducting surveillance on the house can start collecting information about the people coming and going from the address.

"If the answers are leading to more suspicious behaviour, then the officer should be entitled to ask those questions: What's your name? What's your address and where do you live?" Bordeleau said.

"But the individual who is not under arrest has every right to walk away, as well."

Naqvi said the government will consult with police, the Ontario Human Rights Commission, civil rights advocates and others to come up with regulations that protect the public but don't get in the way of proper policing methods.

— WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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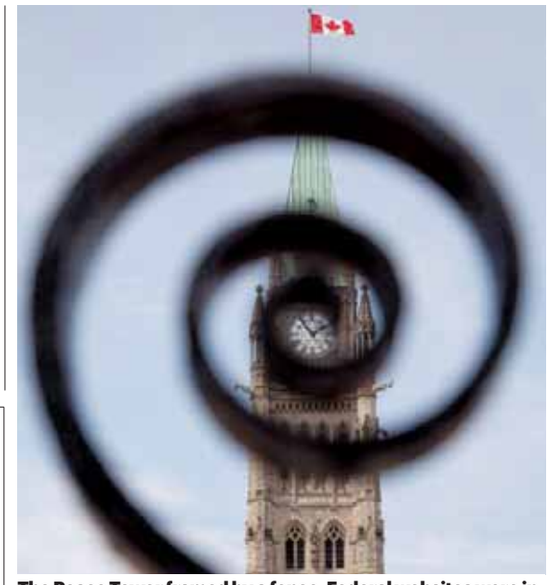

The Peace Tower framed by a fence. Federal websites were in the crosshairs Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hackers hit Ottawa sites

CYBERSECURITY

No personal information compromised, minister insists

No personal information was compromised during a cyberattack that temporarily crippled some federal government websites, says Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney.

The Anonymous online collective claimed responsibility for the attack — which shut down several federal sites and played havoc with email — as a protest against the recent passage of the federal anti-terrorism bill, C-51.

Wednesday afternoon, Treasury Board President Tony Clement tweeted that until full service was restored, the public should use 1-800-OCanada. Several hours of government silence on the incident, known as a denial of service attack, followed.

The federal Cyber Incident Response Centre, which routinely publishes alerts and advisories, posted nothing about the events.

"We are working on restoring services as soon as possible," said a brief, late-afternoon statement from Dave Adamson, the government's acting chief information officer. "We continue to be vigilant in monitoring any potential vulnerabilities."

Denial-of-service attacks, which bombard a site with traffic, are a common means of shutting down a web server.

Anonymous has carried out cyberattacks against governments, corporations and others in the name of free speech, Internet liberties and anti-capitalist causes.

There was no immediate confirmation that the loosely knit coalition was actually behind the assault on federal sites.

Blaney said "law-enforcement agencies" were looking into the matter. "Cybersecurity is an issue that we take very seriously," Blaney said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

'Hurtin' Albertans' coming to City Folk

Alberta country singer Corb Lund is the latest addition to City Folk's upcoming lineup.

Lund will play the festival two days: Sept. 19 and 20, according to the City Folk website.

Lund and his band, the Hurtin' Albertans, have won several Canadian music awards including a JUNO and the Canadian Country Music Music Association's "Group of the Year."

He last played Folk Fest (now known as City Folk) in 2012, and was at Ottawa Bluesfest in 2008.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Police march along side the funeral procession for slain police officer Const. Daniel Woodall, in Edmonton on Wednesday.

An officer is hugged by a pedestrian before the funeral procession. PHOTOS BY JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fallen officer remembered

FUNERAL

Const. Daniel Woodall was a shining example: Chief

They came to honour a father, a husband, a son and a friend.

But Const. Daniel Woodall, Regimental Number 2829, was also recognized as a dedicated police officer who had only begun to tap his talents as protector of the abused and the bullied.

Woodall came into his own when he was assigned to the hate-crimes unit and his "tragic and senseless" death means a "life work cut short," Edmonton police Chief Rod Knecht told mourners at the slain policeman's funeral Wednesday.

"It was this last posting, more than any other, that brought out elements of his personality that made him such an effective police officer. He helped those that were abused or bullied and ... those who needed assistance," Knecht said.

"Dan invested time and effort in many, many Edmontonians. He served faithfully, modestly and proudly with an incredible depth of commitment."

Woodall was shot and killed last week as he was trying to arrest a man he'd been investigating. Norman Raddatz was believed to be behind vicious anti-Semitic bullying that had led an Edmonton family to fear for its safety.

Woodall's work spoke volumes, said Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson.

"Dan's work with the hate-crimes unit speaks to the kind of city that we are building. We will continue Dan's good work and build upon his exemplary leadership, reaching across communities to forge deep and lasting relationships with one another, human being to human being.

"We are truly grateful for the example that Dan has set for all of us."

Woodall's widow, Claire, and the couple's two- and four-year-old sons, watched from the front rows in a cavernous convention centre as colleagues and friends paid tribute to the 35-year-old officer, who came to Edmonton in 2007 after starting his policing career with the Greater Manchester Police in England.

Knecht also acknowledged the strength and grace shown by Claire, who he said has herself become an inspiration. He promised her she would always have the support of the police force.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **His biggest fear was letting you down. He had compassion when he needed to and strength when required.**
>
> Dave Ainsworth, friend and colleague

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Todd Holt in Calgary Monday. BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victims to witness new James charges

SEXUAL ABUSE

Former coach to face new accuser in Saskatchewan

Todd Holt says the scars from being sexually abused by former junior hockey coach Graham James will never fade, but every new accuser that comes forward helps lessen the load.

Holt, a standout player with the Swift Current Broncos from 1989 to 1994, is closely watching the latest legal proceedings against his former mentor and convicted pedophile.

James, who remains in prison serving a sex-crimes sentence, is to appear in a Saskatchewan court Friday to face sex-related charges involving another Broncos player dating back to the early 1990s.

Holt says he encouraged the latest accuser to come forward sooner. But he understands the hesitation.

"It's something you truly think you can take to your grave," Holt recalls. "If I ever had a regret it would be not saying more when I could have."

This is the third time James has faced sex charges.

He served 3½ years in federal prison after he pleaded guilty in 1997 to sex offences against Sheldon Kennedy and two others. Kennedy played for the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League at the time of the assaults and went on to play in the National Hockey League.

James sought and received a pardon for those offences in 2007, but was back in court a few years later when Holt and his cousin, retired Calgary Flames star Theo Fleury, came forward with new allegations.

James pleaded guilty and was initially sentenced to two years in 2012. An appeal court increased the sentence to five years and, although he has been eligible for full parole, he has never applied.

> **It's clarification that it's not your fault.**
> Sheldon Kennedy

Holt says he and scores of other young players were interviewed by police when Kennedy first came forward.

"You don't know what to say. You don't know how to say it. If I did, what were going to be the consequences?

"When you're put on the spot and you've been through this and you've lived the lie for so many years, one more white lie didn't seem like it was that bad. I feel awful that we couldn't be there more for Sheldon."

Both Holt and Kennedy plan to be in Swift Current when James faces the newest allegations.

"It's not about me anymore. It's about these brave warriors — the victims who are coming out," Holt said.

"I had given so much of my life to Graham James. We need to keep our lives going the way we want them, instead of being manipulated or being overshadowed by the darkness of the past."

Kennedy, who has dedicated his life to fight sexual abuse, says for those who do speak up the process can be terrifying.

"They think to themselves, 'I've told my story and it's all over now.' But the reality is it's not over. The damage has been done and now the journey starts to get ourselves to a place where we can actually feel good about ourselves," Kennedy said.

"It's clarification that it's not your fault. I think it's one of the biggest burdens that individuals carry — that they've done something to deserve this."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

MPs rip Forces' top general over 'inexplicable' remarks

An awkward turn of phrase or a revealing glimpse into the mindset of senior leadership in the Canadian military?

Remarks made by the chief of defence staff suggesting men are "biologically wired in a certain way" to make them believe it is OK to sexually harass women sparked debate Wednesday about whether the Canadian Forces can deal with sexual harassment in their ranks.

The Liberals called for Gen. Tom Lawson to be immediately fired or step aside, but Lawson's term ends this summer and his replacement is already teed up, Prime Minister Stephen Harper told question period.

"The comments made here are offensive, they are inappropriate, they are inexplicable," Harper said. "The general did immediately apologize."

In a statement Tuesday night after he made the comments in an interview with the CBC, Lawson called his comments an awkward characterization and said he was in no way trying to excuse anyone from responsibility for their actions.

But several MPs didn't appear to accept that apology Wednesday, grilling Lawson about his remarks during an appearance before the defence committee.

Defence Minister Jason Kenney and Gen. Tom Lawson at the defence committee Wednesday. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"You dumbed down the problem of sexual harassment in the military," said Conservative MP Cheryl Gallant.

"You're dumbing down the position of chief of defence staff."

Lawson said he made the comment in an effort to answer a question about how sexual harassment was still a societal problem in 2015, not just in the military but everywhere.

"It was unhelpful conjecture on my part as to what might motivate someone in a heinous way to believe that they can press themselves on someone else," he said. "It was not helpful and it is for that reason I apologized."

But critics say his remarks spoke volumes about how far the military has to go in order to follow up on a report issued in April found a highly sexualized culture in the military that confronts women virtually as soon as they enlist and persists as they try to move up the ranks.

"If only the problem were as simple as the departure of one general who said something that was totally wrong," said NDP Leader Tom Mulcair.

"The real problem is that no one is working for a change in the culture in the military on the issue of sexual harassment."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Using a virtual-reality headset, spectators can see Cirque du Soleil's Inside the Box of Kurios from the gravity-defying performers' point of view. THE CANADIAN PRESS/CONTRIBUTED

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'It's as if you staged a play for one viewer only'

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Virtual-reality circus creates an immersive experience

For those of us who lack the robust physique and otherworldly agility necessary to play a part in a Cirque du Soleil show, there is now a way to join the cast of the company's newest production via the latest in virtual reality technology.

The company has partnered with Montreal-based production house, Felix & Paul Studios, to release Inside the Box of Kurios, a virtual-reality experience somewhere between a traditional film and a video game that puts viewers inside the show.

> **It's the birth of something new, a brand new medium and art form."**
> Felix Lajeuness, video artist

"We like to break new ground; that's what Cirque has been doing for all these years," said Jacques Méthé, president of Cirque du Soleil's media division.

In the film, the viewer is transported to a steampunk world of clowns, gymnasts and aerial performers from the company's Kurios — Cabinet of Curiosities show, which debuted in 2014.

"It's as if you staged a play for one viewer only," Méthé said. "The only decision you do is the direction in which you're going to watch."

The virtual-reality experience is a collaboration between the show's director, Michel Laprise, and Felix Lajeunesse and Paul Raphael, two video artists who have embraced virtual reality as a platform for storytelling.

Lajeunesse said he has been working with Raphael on "immersive cinematic experiences" for a decade, and the two first came into contact with Cirque du Soleil at the 2010 Shanghai Expo.

They have gone on to produce a scene from the 2014 Reese Witherspoon film Wild, and most recently, an up-close-and-personal interaction with an Apatosaurus in partnership with the studio behind Jurassic World.

"It's the birth of something new, a brand new medium and art form," Lajeunesse said. "We had to accept that we would probably never do a film in our lives again, and that we would just focus for the rest of our careers on exploring that new language and that new medium."

Inside the Box of Kurios and the other experiences are designed for the Samsung Gear VR, one of a new generation of virtual-reality headsets hitting the market that make use of the advances in display technology propelled by the rise of the smartphone.

The transition from traditional filmmaking has been challenging, Lajeunesse said. "It's as if you tried to retrofit jazz music into painting. It has to be taken for what it is. It's a new departure, it's a new territory, a new continent to explore."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public gets say on plane noise

AIRPORTS

Residents under flight paths to be consulted

The federal government wants to give people living under flight paths the chance to have their voices heard over the din of passing aircraft.

Residents in affected communities will now be included in consultations and deliberations about shifting flight paths at major airports.

The new rules went into effect on Wednesday.

Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said she expects every airport in the country to follow the spirit and intent of the new rules when they make decisions about the routes planes fly, whether it's a change to flight paths to Toronto Pearson International, or to the smaller Billy Bishop Airport on Toronto Island.

"We expect that you're going to implement this protocol so we can avoid the disaster that has happened with the implementation of new flight routes in the Toronto Pearson area," Raitt told reporters in Ottawa.

She said many residents who live under those flight paths have been frustrated that their voices weren't heard when changes were made in the past.

Previously, airports only had to ask for input from anyone living within 10 nautical miles — about 18 kilometres — of an airport.

If anyone farther away had issues, there was little they could do, which has frustrated many residents affected by airport noise.

The federal government could only shift a flight path if there was a safety problem, and Nav Canada, the private body charged with navigating all flights in Canadian airspace, didn't have to consult the public on changes, she said.

"We expect ... to implement this protocol so we can avoid the disaster that has happened with ... new flight routes in the Toronto Pearson area.
Transport Minister Lisa Raitt

When Raitt was asked what would happen if airports didn't follow the new rules, she said residents should call her directly, "and we'll have a conversation with the airports."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Transport Minister Lisa Raitt. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

AIRPORT SECURITY

Turban rules lifted

Transport Minister Lisa Raitt says there's no need to reimpose a rule that required passengers to remove religious headgear when going through airport security.

Raitt says the agency charged with screening travellers at airports has other tools at its disposal to ensure safety without requiring passengers such as Sikhs to remove their turbans.

Raitt says department officials are reviewing the policy to see if there is a way to enact the rule anew in a non-discriminatory way.

On Tuesday, Raitt struck down her department's April decision to implement the rule but only for flights within Canada.

The decision came hours after the World Sikh Organization of Canada condemned the policy as discriminatory because it required Sikhs to remove their turbans, which their religion requires them to wear.

Raitt says she learned of the policy about two weeks ago after caucus colleagues raised concerns they had heard from Sikh travellers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PUBLIC INDECENCY

Stripped of their travel rights

A brother and sister from Saskatchewan say they are "deeply sorry" for taking off their clothes on top of a sacred mountain in Malaysia.

Lindsey and Danielle Petersen have released a statement saying they did not mean offence and were unaware of the spiritual significance of Mount Kinabalu.

"The contents of our hearts and everything else that was laid bare during our summit experience were a reflection of the exuberance and joy we felt for our achievement of climbing the tallest peak in Southeast Asia," the statement says. "There was absolutely no ill intent."

They were among 10 foreigners who stripped and took photos on the mountain on May 30. A local official has said their behaviour was disrespectful and caused an earthquake a few days later that killed 18 climbers.

The Canadians, along with Dutch citizen Dylan Snel and British student Eleanor Hawkins, spent three days in jail before pleading guilty to public indecency. They were fined about $1,600 each and deported.

The Petersens arrived back in Saskatchewan over the weekend. A person who answered the phone at their parents' home in Wood Mountain, southwest of Regina, declined comment.

Lindsey Petersen, a University of Regina engineering graduate, had detailed his travels in Asia over the last seven months on Facebook. When his sister joined him in Bali, Indonesia, in April, he referred to them as the "dynamic duo."

"This is an experience that we have learned from and will never forget," the siblings say in the statement, which ends with a quote from Mark Twain: "Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lindsey Petersen, left, and Dutch national Dylan Snel arrive at court in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, on June 12. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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Border security target on line

TRACKING

Feds may miss deadline for anti-terrorism system delivery

The Conservative government appears set to miss another target date for delivering a border tracking system that could stop homegrown terrorists from joining battles overseas.

And with just days left in the parliamentary calendar before a fall election, it is unclear when — or even if — the necessary legislative and regulatory changes will come.

Under the Canada-U.S. perimeter security pact, the federal government committed to begin collecting records of people leaving Canada on international flights as of June 30, 2014.

It missed that deadline and would not reveal a new date, saying only that information would be provided in due course.

However, a newly obtained internal briefing note shows federal agencies were eyeing October of this year for completion of the project. The heavily censored May 2014 note, prepared for Citizenship and Immigration Canada's deputy minister, was released to The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

It now seems the government will almost certainly miss the revised implementation date, as the required legal and administrative changes remain to be done.

The House of Commons is expected to rise shortly and return some time after a fall general election.

The Canada Border Services Agency, which is leading the project, continues to consult with the federal privacy commissioner, partners and other interested parties on the initiative, said Pierre Deveau, a border agency spokesman.

A final assessment of the project's implications for the personal information of Canadians will be delivered to the privacy commissioner once the required legislation receives royal assent, "but consultations continue throughout the process," he said.

A federal report published last year said the government knew of more than 130 individuals with Canadian connections who were abroad and suspected of supporting terror-related activities. It said the government was aware of about 80 such people who had returned to Canada.

A border services agency briefing note, released previously under the access law, says information from the planned border tracking system could be provided to the RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

"This is of particular interest given the recent media attention on Canadians travelling abroad to engage in terrorist activities."

Deveau said Canada and the United States "remain dedicated to the full implementation" of the project.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security did not immediately respond to questions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian border guards are silhouetted as they replace each other at an inspection booth at the Douglas border crossing on the Canada-U.S. border in Surrey, B.C., in 2009. The Conservative government appears set to miss another target date for delivering a border tracking system that could stop homegrown terrorists from joining battles overseas.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

BACKGROUND

Expanded program could serve everyday purposes

Citizenship and Immigration says entry and exit information will provide hard data on an individual's presence in — or absence from — Canada. It plans to use the data in programs where residency and travel history are key, including permanent resident card renewals, grants of citizenship, temporary and permanent resident applications, and investigations into eligibility to hold a Canadian travel document.

Currently, the tracking system involves exchanging entry information collected at the Canada-U.S. land border. The data on entry to one country serves as a record of exit from the other. The first two phases of the program have been limited to foreign nationals and permanent residents of the countries, but not citizens of either. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RAMADAN MUSLIMS MARK START OF HOLY MONTH WITH FASTING AND PRAYERS
Palestinians walk near a traditional Ramadan lantern on Wednesday in Jebaliya refugee camp, in the northern Gaza Strip. Muslims around the world will mark the start of Ramadan on Thursday, or later in some countries, for a month of intense prayer, dawn-to-dusk fasting and nightly feasts. ADEL HANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EGYPT

165 pardoned ahead of holiday

Egypt's president issued a decree pardoning 165 people on Wednesday, mostly youths convicted of breaking protest laws and misdemeanours ahead of the holy month of Ramadan.

Many of the pardons issued by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi were to university students, some jailed under a draconian law that heavily punishes demonstrations staged without police permits.

The move comes amid a state-orchestrated campaign to silence dissent, where courts dispense stiff sentences against both Islamists and secular-minded activists over charges mostly related to violence. Pardons during national and religious holidays are a tradition in Egypt.

Rights groups say many of the people were sentenced over the past two years to around three to four years of imprisonment, and that some were arrested at home or on the sidelines of protests in which they were not participating.

"It's not just the new protest law at work here, there's also a poor judiciary and lack of a credible investigative process, and some are being charged under another 100-year-old law limiting even small assemblies," said Mohammed Zaree of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies.

The protest measure became law after the el-Sissi-led military's ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in July 2013, part of a sweeping crackdown against his supporters and other dissidents.

The clampdown, which left hundreds dead and thousands in prison, some without charges, has sparked a radical backlash and attacks against security forces. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Runaway tiger mauls civilian

GEORGIA

Man dead after predator escapes zoo during floods

A tiger that broke loose after severe flooding at the Tbilisi Zoo mauled a man to death in the Georgian capital before being shot by police Wednesday, a day after officials said all the zoo's tigers had died.

Zoo director Zurab Gurielidze acknowledged he was to blame for releasing faulty information. He said new counts indicated a tiger cub and a hyena could still be on the loose. The city has remained on edge, with runaway predators reportedly seen by some residents.

The Interior Ministry in the former Soviet republic said the tiger was hiding in an abandoned factory that had been turned into a construction market when he attacked the man. The victim, who worked in the market, later died of his wounds at a hospital.

"We entered the depot and, suddenly, a white tiger rushed out of an adjacent room and attacked one of the workers, jumping at his throat and mauling him," colleague Alexander Shavbulashvili told The Associated Press.

"We broke the window of another room to flee, and the sound of breaking glass must have scared it and it ran away."

Police commandos rushed to the site and killed the tiger.

The zoo administration had said Tuesday that eight lions, all its seven tigers and at least two of its three jaguars and 12 of its 14 bears were killed in the flooding.

Georgia's Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili criticized zoo officials for providing false information and ordered the interior minister to personally oversee the count of how many animals have died and how many remain missing.

After the premier's statement, the zoo director acknowledged he was to blame for the misinformation.

On Tuesday evening, several hundred demonstrators gathered outside the main government building in Tbilisi in support of the zoo director and to protest what they suspect is a government attempt to pin all the blame on him. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **We had wrong information that there were no predators outside the zoo ... I take full responsibility for that.**
> Zoo director Zurab Gurielidze

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COURTS

Eight plead not guilty in alleged U.S. testing scam

Eight of 15 Chinese citizens indicted in a conspiracy to take college entrance exams on behalf of others or pay to have their tests taken so they could obtain student visas pleaded not guilty before a federal magistrate Wednesday.

Federal prosecutors allege they scammed tests run by Educational Testing Service and the College Board — such as the Scholastic Aptitude Test, or SAT — for more than $5,000 per exam.

The alleged scheme involves tests administered in Pittsburgh and its suburbs since 2011.

Some of the defendants eventually enrolled in out-of-state schools, though investigators and defence attorneys have refused to supply specifics.

Two students arraigned Wednesday were enrolled at Virginia Tech and a third is accused of having someone else take a test whose results were sent to Northeastern University.

"Mistakes were clearly made and they're probably going to end up paying for them,'' said defence attorney Lyle Dresbold, who represents Yue Zou, 20.

Zou and her boyfriend and co-defendant, Yudong Zhang, 21, were listed as students Wednesday on Virginia Tech's website. Zou is studying finance and Zhang general engineering at the school, where officials didn't immediately comment on their status or the test-related charges.

Zhang allegedly sent a photocopy of Zou's passport to Han Tong, 24, who's identified as a test-taker, before another woman arraigned Wednesday, Yunlin Sun, 24, took SAT and English language tests while posing as Zou, according to the indictment.

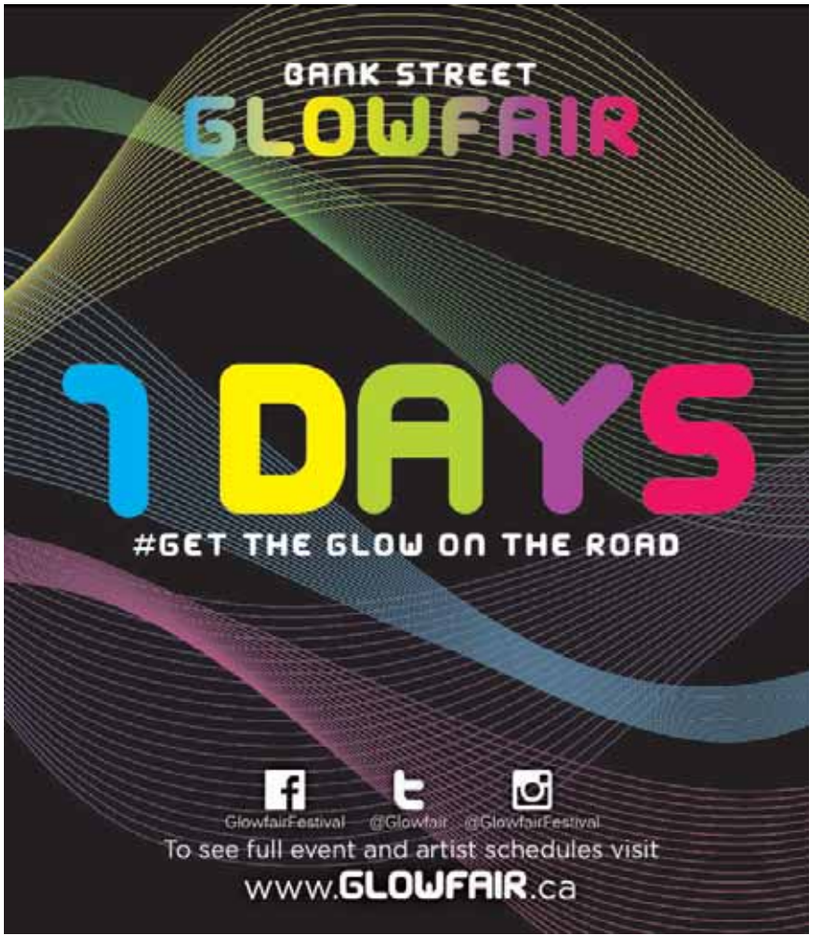
U.S. Attorney David Hickton said the investigation is just part of an ongoing investigation spurred, in part, by concerns that people from China and other Asian countries have been impersonating others, or otherwise cheating on the tests.

Attorneys for Tong, considered a central figure in the charges filed so far, and several other defendants declined comment.

Robert Mielnicki, the attorney for Sun, said she "contests the allegations'' but declined to elaborate. The only other attorney who spoke was Gary Gerson, who represents Gong Zhang, 23. He allegedly took an English fluency exam in 2013 for another person not named.

Gerson said his client is a "naive" young man who received only "minimal'' reward for his actions. Two others scheduled for arraignments Wednesday had their court appearances postponed, two others have yet to be scheduled for arraignments and three others charged have yet to be identified as their names have been redacted in the indictment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Mistakes were clearly made and they're probably going to end up paying for them**
> Lyle Dresbold, defence lawyer



Hunter Treschl, 16, of Colorado Springs, during an interview in hospital in Wilmington, N.C. "I started moving away. And then the shark bit my arm off." NEW HANOVER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER/AP

Teenager's arm bitten off by shark

NORTH CAROLINA

Victim felt something bump his leg before the bite

Hunter Treschl and his cousin were "playing around in the waves" at a North Carolina beach when he felt something bump into his left calf.

"I thought it felt like a big fish, and I started moving away," Treschl said in a video released Tuesday night by the New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

"And then the shark bit my arm — off."

The 16-year-old from Colorado Springs, Colorado, was one of two young people attacked by sharks in North Carolina on Sunday. Both he and 12-year-old Kiersten Yow of Asheboro survived, but with serious injuries.

Treschl's left arm was amputated below the shoulder, according to information released by the New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, North Carolina, where he is being treated.

He was in good condition Tuesday, hospital spokeswoman Martha Harlan said.

A little more than an hour before Treschl was attacked and about two miles away, Yow lost her left arm below the elbow and was injured in the leg.

Authorities do not know if they were attacked by the same shark.

Yow was in stable condition Tuesday at N.C. Children's Hospital at the University of North Carolina, according to a statement from her parents, Brian and Laurie Yow.

"She has a long road to recovery that will include surgeries and rehabilitation, but her doctors at UNC expect she will keep her leg, and for that we are grateful," they said, appealing for time to deal with the trauma privately.

Immediately after he felt the shark rip his arm off, Treschl said he was able to make it back onto the beach at Oak Island with the help of his cousin.

He said another teen had a belt that he used as a tourniquet to stop the bleeding, while others "were all helping me kind of stay calm until the ambulance got there."

Asked if he ever saw the shark, Treschl said he felt it first.

"We were just playing around in the waves, and I felt a hit on my left calf," he said in the video.

"That was the first time I saw it, when it was biting up my left arm."

The paramedics said they were stunned by two calls coming so close together in just one day. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUBLIC SAFETY

Shark population is increasing

Federal wildlife protections are helping sharks rebound, but they aren't the sole reason for the uptick in encounters between sharks and humans. Expanding human populations and growing use of beaches are major factors too, scientists say.

Recent shark attacks in North Carolina and Florida have made headlines as the summer beach-going season gets into gear. Such attacks have become more common in recent years. The Florida Museum of Natural History's International Shark Attack File says the number of unprovoked shark attacks has grown in every decade since the 1970s.

Shark researcher George Burgess, who publishes the file, said this decade is almost certain to set a record for shark attacks.

"The fact of the matter is, while shark populations rebound and hopefully come to where they once were, the human population is rising every year," Burgess said. "We're not rebounding, we're just bounding." Americans made 2.2 billion visits to beaches in 2010, up from 2 billion in 2001, according to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimate. A spokesman for the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association said the figure is likely still rising because of the improving economy.

Populations of some shark species have grown due in part to conservation efforts, such as a U.S. law that prevented the hunting of great white sharks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump makes his way to the stage to speak to supporters at a rally in Des Moines, Iowa on Tuesday. CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Comics in state of glee over Trump

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Late night hosts tickled pink by The Donald's bid

He doesn't need the money, but if Donald Trump's presidential campaign falters, late-night comics would surely pass the hat to keep it going.

An animated Jon Stewart looked like he was second-guessing his decision to step away from The Daily Show in the wake of Trump's declaration Tuesday. Stephen Colbert's Late Show hasn't started yet, but he couldn't resist releasing a video. Seth Meyers pumped his fist in glee. And Larry Wilmore regarded Trump's announcement as a literal gift from the comedy gods.

"I've got a show and Trump's running for president," said Wilmore, of Comedy Central's Nightly Show. "Good news for me, horrible news for our writers. Because all of the jokes are officially writing themselves."

He ran a clip reel of highlights from Trump's speech, while contentedly munching on a steak dinner.

Stewart acted like a child waiting for dessert as he ran through video of campaign announcements by Hillary Clinton and Jeb Bush. Finally, he showed a clip of Trump riding an escalator down to where he made his presidential announcement.

"Hey, only losers walk," Stewart said in a mocking New Yawk accent. What followed, he said, "was over a half-hour of the most beautifully ridiculous jibber-jabber ever to pour forth from the mouth" of a billionaire.

"It's amazing!" he said. "America's id is running for president."

Stewart said following Trump promises to make his last six weeks on The Daily Show terrific.

"He is putting me in some kind of comedy hospice, where all you're getting is straight morphine," he said.

Jimmy Fallon had Jeb Bush as a Tonight Show guest a day after the former Florida governor announced his presidential candidacy, but it was Trump who dominated the comic's monologue. Fallon joked that he was going to have Trump on, "but the last time we checked he was still giving his speech."

Conan O'Brien on TBS joked that Trump's announcement "traditionally means six more weeks of comedy."

"Here's the sad news," O'Brien said. "Season 15 of Celebrity Apprentice will not air. But not to worry. With Trump running for president, you'll still get to see an irrelevant B-list celebrity not get a job." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **He is putting me in some kind of comedy hospice, where all you're getting is straight morphine.**
> Jon Stewart

TRUMP CAMPAIGN

No more Rockin' In The Free World

Donald Trump has decided to find another campaign song.

A press secretary for the real estate mogul said Wednesday that Trump would respect the wishes of Neil Young and no longer use Rockin' In the Free World, which Trump featured Tuesday during his announcement that he was seeking the Republican Party's nomination for president.

Young, a Canadian who supports liberal Democrat Bernie Sanders, had objected and said the song was played without his permission. Rockin' In the Free World is a scathing condemnation of war and poverty that criticizes former President George H.W. Bush, a Republican.

Trump press secretary Hope Hicks said Wednesday that "despite Neil's differing political views, Mr. Trump likes Neil very much." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Neil Young had objected to Donald Trump's use of his music. GETTY IMAGES FILE

KICKOFF

Trump has no regrets over speech

The bombastic businessman and reality television star says Wednesday he has no second thoughts about anything he said in his blustering presidential campaign kickoff speech.

He told The Associated Press in an interview, quote, "There's nothing in there I didn't mean."

That includes a remark portraying immigrants from Mexico as "rapists." The Mexican interior minister called the comment "biased and absurd."

Trump had previously flirted with running for president several times but never followed through. He says this time is different, because, quote, "The country is at a critical stage." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Brazilian fans — wearing masks and dressed as prison inmates in allusion to the FIFA corruption scandal — cheer for their team before the start of a Copa America football match against Colombia, in Santiago, Chile, on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

Swiss attorney general Michael Lauber at a press conference in Bern, Switzerland, on Wednesday. MARCEL BIERI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FIFA feeling heat from investigation

WORLD CUP

Bids linked to 53 possible acts of money laundering

Reeling from an American federal investigation of bribery in soccer, FIFA was put under more pressure Wednesday as the scale of a separate Swiss investigation of suspected money laundering was revealed.

Banks in Switzerland have flagged up to 53 possible acts of money laundering that could be linked to FIFA's 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding contests, the country's attorney-general said.

Future World Cup hosts Russia and Qatar were not implicated by Swiss federal prosecutor Michael Lauber.

Still, the "huge and complex" case he outlined could potentially force FIFA to re-examine taking the world's most-watched sports event from either country if new evidence proves wrongdoing.

"I don't mind if this has some collateral (damage) somewhere else," Lauber said of his investigation, addressing the media for the first time since the dual Swiss and American criminal probes into FIFA were announced three weeks ago.

In a further sign of legal attacks on FIFA picking up the pace, the ethics prosecutor of world soccer's ruling body later confirmed he expected an increased workload linked to the 2018 and 2022 case.

The ethics investigation department "has taken the necessary preparatory measures for this and is prepared to increase its staff numbers at any time if needed," Cornel Borbely said in a rare public statement since succeeding Michael Garcia last December.

There seems little respite for FIFA three weeks after a stunning U.S. Department of Justice indictment alleged a racketeering conspiracy among top soccer officials, and two weeks after FIFA President Sepp Blatter added to the crisis by announcing his plans to resign.

Blatter, who has not appeared in public since, is a target of the U.S. federal agencies who are working with Swiss authorities.

Lauber said Wednesday he "does not exclude" interviewing Blatter and FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke in the future.

They are not, however, currently under suspicion in a Swiss case prompted by FIFA's own criminal complaint against "persons unknown" last November.

The American case alleged that senior FIFA voters received $10 million in bribes to support South Africa's successful bid for the 2010 World Cup.

Valcke has acknowledged signing off the transfer from a FIFA account on behalf of South African officials, but said the payment had been approved by Julio Grondona, the former chairman of the finance committee who died last year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAIDS

FIFA was thrown into crisis on May 27 with dual raids in Zurich on a luxury downtown hotel and its own headquarters two days before its presidential election.

Murder plot tied to jailbreak

MANHUNT

Prison worker accused of plans to have husband killed

A prison worker charged with helping two convicted murderers escape from a maximum-security facility had discussed with them a murder-for-hire plot involving her husband, a district attorney confirmed Wednesday.

Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie said at a news conference that Joyce Mitchell talked to inmates Richard Matt and David Sweat about the possibility of them killing her husband, Lyle.

Both Joyce Mitchell and Lyle Mitchell work at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora.

Meanwhile, state police expanded the search for the killers beyond a 16-square-mile area of woods, fields and swamps where the manhunt has been most intense.

Officials said the number of law enforcement officers involved in the search had been reduced from more than 800 earlier in the week to more than 600 Wednesday. Roadblocks along the road leading into Dannemora had been removed while more roving patrols were added in the area around the prison, officials said.

Sweat and Matt escaped June 6 from the 170-year-old prison near the Canadian border.

Sweat, 35, was serving a life sentence without parole in the killing of a sheriff's deputy. Matt, 48, was doing 25 years to life for the kidnap, torture and hacksaw dismemberment of his former boss.

Joyce Mitchell is charged with helping the killers flee by providing them with hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools. She was visited in jail Tuesday by her husband.

Clinton County Sheriff David Favro described Joyce Mitchell as "composed" during the visit.

Prosecutors say Mitchell, a prison tailoring shop instructor who befriended the inmates, had agreed to be the getaway driver but backed out because she still loved her husband and felt guilty for participating.

Lyle Mitchell arrived with his attorney late Wednesday morning at the state police barracks in Malone to talk to them, the Press-Republican of Plattsburgh reported.

Investigators have no information that Lyle Mitchell knew about the escape plan or assisted in it, Wylie said.

Joyce Mitchell was charged last week with supplying contraband, including a punch and a screwdriver, to the two inmates. She has pleaded not guilty. She has been suspended without pay from her $57,000-a-year job overseeing inmates who sew clothes and learn to repair sewing machines.

Authorities say the convicts used power tools to cut through the backs of their adjacent cells, broke through a brick wall and then cut into a steam pipe and slithered through it, finally emerging outside the prison walls through a manhole. Wylie says they apparently used tools stored by prison contractors, taking care to return them to their toolboxes after each night's work.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jacob Fountain, 10, waves to passing police officers, Wednesday, in Dannemora, N.Y. After conducting a manhunt across 10,000 acres for two escaped convicts who were found missing from Clinton Correctional Facility on June 6, officials announced roads would be reopened and road blocks would be closed on major routes. ANDREW BURTON/GETTY IMAGES

CASE DETAILS

David Sweat and Richard Matt escaped June 6 from the 170-year-old prison near the Canadian border.

Sweat, 35, was serving a life sentence without parole in the killing of a sheriff's deputy. Matt, 48, was doing 25 years to life for the kidnap, torture and hacksaw dismemberment of his former boss.

CONNECTICUT

Woman loses bid for new trial in murder-for-hire case

A Connecticut woman has lost her bid for a new trial in a murder-for-hire case that landed her in prison for life and was depicted in books and TV shows.

A Rockville Superior Court judge on Tuesday rejected arguments by former lawyer and Ledyard resident Beth Carpenter that her lawyers made mistakes at her trial, according to a court ruling obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press.

Carpenter, 51, was convicted of murder and conspiracy in 2002 for plotting with her lover and boss, Haiman Clein, to kill her brother-in-law, Anson (Buzz) Clinton.

Carpenter and her parents believed Clinton, a one-time exotic dancer, was abusing his three-year-old stepdaughter, who was Carpenter's niece.

Clein ended up being the star witness against Carpenter at her trial, testifying that it was Carpenter's idea to kill Clinton. He said he was in love with Carpenter and believed her niece was being abused, so he hired and paid Mark Despres to kill Clinton.

Despres gunned down Clinton in East Lyme in 1994. He initially admitted that he was paid $5,500 for the hit but later recanted.

Clein was an admitted cocaine user, and Despres was a drug dealer and one of Clein's clients. Both were convicted in the plot. Clein is serving 35 years in prison, and Despres is serving 45 years.

Insisting that she had nothing to with the plot, Carpenter maintained that Clein planned the killing without her knowledge because he loved her and wanted to impress her.

Carpenter fled to Ireland after the killing and was arrested there in 1997. To secure her return to Connecticut, state prosecutors had to agree to not seek the death penalty because Ireland does not allow capital punishment.

Carpenter's lawyer, Norman Pattis, said Wednesday that he planned to take the case to federal court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This inmate photo shows Beth Carpenter, convicted in 2002 for murder and conspiracy for plotting with her lover and boss, Haiman Clein, to kill her brother-in-law, Anson (Buzz) Clinton in East Lyme in 1994. On Wednesday, a Rockville Superior Court judge rejected Carpenter's bid for a new trial. CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Protesters take part in an anti-austerity rally in front of the parliament in Athens, Greece, on Wednesday. Greece and its creditors publicly blamed one another for an impasse in bailout talks, on the eve of a eurozone finance ministers' meeting billed as key to their outcome. MILOS BICANSKI/GETTY IMAGES (LEFT) AND YORGOS KARAHALIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS (RIGHT)

Blame game over debt begins

GREECE

Mediterranean nation and its creditors fight war of words

Greece and its creditors publicly blamed one another for an impasse in bailout talks Wednesday, on the eve of a eurozone finance ministers' meeting billed as key to their outcome.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras lashed out at rescue lenders for demanding pension cuts, and got support from thousands of Greeks who hit the streets in Athens to protest against any further austerity measures.

"If Europe insists in this incomprehensible option — if its political leadership insists — then they must bear the cost of developments that will not be beneficial for anyone in Europe," he said after meeting in Athens with Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann.

Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis was defiant ahead of Thursday's meeting of finance chiefs from the eurozone. Asked during a visit to Paris on Wednesday whether the meeting could produce an agreement, Varoufakis said, ``I do not believe so,'' and criticized the group for not making enough "preparations" to solve Greece's "incapacitating debt crisis."

Greece needs to get more loans from its creditors before June 30, when its bailout program expires and it is scheduled to make a 1.6 billion euro ($1.8 billion) debt repayment to the International Monetary Fund.

European Union officials said they have already made major concessions, dropping a budget surplus target from 3 per cent to 1 per cent this year.

Athens still needed to come up with a more realistic plan, EU Commission Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis said.

"It is important that the Greek side actually not only communicates what they do not want to do, but also what they do want to do," he said.

Markets continued to react badly to the news on the talks. The Athens Stock Exchange's main index sank another 3.2 per cent, while the yield on Greece's two-year bond has soared above 30 per cent, a sign investors are more worried about a default.

Also Wednesday, Greece's central bank issued a dramatic warning in its annual report that, without a deal, the country would face "deep recession (and) a dramatic decline in income levels" that would drive it from the euro bloc and even the EU.

Dombrovskis conceded the EU would consider "less favourable scenarios" when asked about a possible Greek exit, or "Grexit."

Berenberg analyst Holger Schmieding said the Grexit risk has increased from 30 to 40 per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **With every semi-deadline that Greece misses and with every rude word that the Greek radicals hurl at their creditors, the damage already done to Greece gets worse.**
>
> Holger Schmieding, analyst with Berenberg Bank, on the Greek financial crisis

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CRIME

Student allegedly tied to ISIL

A college student was arrested on Wednesday in the investigation of an alleged plot to support the Islamic State group by using homemade explosives to attack New York City targets.

Fereed Mumuni, 21, was ordered held without bail on attempted murder charges accusing him of trying to kill an FBI agent with a large kitchen knife in a struggle while agents who were executing a search warrant at his Staten Island home. The agent escaped serious harm thanks to his body armour, authorities said.

Mumuni became the latest defendant in the spate of cases in the city involving young men and women allegedly radicalized by Islamic State propaganda. Most have been accused either of trying to travel abroad to fight with the militant group or of talking about attacks on U.S. soil on the group's behalf, but not getting far enough to put civilians at risk.

After his arrest, Mumuni told investigators he had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State, according to government papers. If he couldn't join the group overseas, he intended to attack law enforcement officers at home, the papers added.

Outside federal court in Brooklyn, defence attorney Anthony Ricco denied that Mumuni was an Islamic State convert. Ricco said his client is a practicing Muslim with a clean record who attends the College of Staten Island.

The arrest surprised his family, who "know him as a quiet, soft-spoken person," Ricco added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IATA scraps carry-on bag plan

TRAVEL

Global airline group hoped to impose new size restrictions

A global airline association said Wednesday that it was scrapping its recommendation to reduce the size of carry-on bags for air travellers after an "intense" response in North America.

The International Air Transportation Association (IATA), a Montreal-headquartered trade group whose members represent nearly 85 per cent of total air traffic, said it is cancelling its proposal after "significant concerns" were raised in North America.

"This is clearly an issue that is close to the heart of travellers. We need to get it right," IATA senior vice president Tom Windmuller said.

The group recommended last week that airlines require carry-on bags to be 20 per cent smaller than what major U.S. carriers currently permit, saying that would allow for more space.

Two U.S. senators criticized the idea, saying it would require passengers to pay more and buy new luggage. A top U.S. airline group that includes the world's three largest air carriers — American, Delta and United — also formally came out against the proposal.

The current maximum carry-on size, depending on the airline, ranges from a length of 56 to 60 centimetres, a width of about 36 to 46 centimetres and a depth of 23 to 41 centimetres.

The airline groups suggested standardizing the permitted carry-on size to 55 by 34 centimetres and a depth of 19 centimetres.

IATA insisted that was merely a recommendation, not a requirement, as each airline decides the maximum size of carry-on luggage on its own.

When announcing the recommendation the group had said the smaller size would help avert the problem that travellers commonly face when a plane cabin runs out of storage space by the time all the passengers board.

Many international airlines already have agreed to adopt the proposed policy, including Air China, Azul, Pacific, China Southern, Emirates, Lufthansa and Qatar.

But Delta Air Lines came out against the proposal earlier this week.

"Delta has no plans to reduce the size allowance for carry-on bags, and we are concerned IATA called for a change without input from airlines," the Atlanta-based airline said in a statement Tuesday.

"Our focus and investment in the carry-on experience have been on installation of larger bins on domestic and international aircraft, and will continue to be on delivering the reliable bag service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **This is clearly an issue that is close to the heart of travellers. We need to get it right.**
> Tom Windmuller, IATA senior vice president

Tom Windmuller, senior vice president at IATA, holds up an example of the group's ideal size for passenger carry-on bags during the organization's annual general meeting in June. KERRY SHERIDAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

FOOD SERVICE

Starbucks to close La Boulange cafes

Starbucks will close all of its La Boulange cafes by the end of September.

It bought the bakery chain in 2012 to address customer complaints about an uninspiring menu.

The company said there has been strong growth in food sales since the $100 million acquisition three years ago, but that running the 23 La Boulange restaurants, which are mostly found in San Francisco, is no longer sustainable.

Starbucks will also shutter two manufacturing plants that supplied La Boulange and an Evolution Fresh retail store in San Francisco.

La Boulange food will still be available at Starbucks in the U.S. and Canada.

Shares of Starbucks Corp. reached an all-time high of $53.14 on Tuesday and edged higher before the opening bell Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Although Starbucks announced the closure of its 23 bakeries, La Boulange treats will still be available at Starbucks locations across the U.S. and Canada. GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

IN BRIEF

Botox-maker purchases U.S. pharmaceutical firm

Botox maker Allergan Plc. is buying Kythera Biopharmaceuticals for about $2.1 billion, adding an injection that reduces "double chin" to its portfolio of products.

The Dublin drugmaker will pay $75 per share in a cash-and-stock deal for Kythera, based in Westlake Village, California. The deal marks a 25.5 per cent premium over Kythera's closing stock price Tuesday.

Kythera Biopharmaceuticals Inc. is preparing to launch its double chin treatment Kybella in the U.S., and the company is seeking approval in foreign markets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR 81.73¢ (+0.51¢)

TSX 14,732.98 (-20.07)

OIL $59.92 US (-0.05¢)

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metro VIEWS
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Thursday, June 18, 2015

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON ELECTORAL REFORM

“For the first time, two of Canada’s three main national parties are about to run on a commitment to do away with the first-past-the-post voting system.

The Liberal conversion to electoral reform is both a reflection of the party’s diminished circumstances in the House of Commons and — potentially — a watershed moment in Canadian electoral politics.

For the first time, two of Canada’s three main national parties — the NDP and the Liberals — are about to run on a commitment to do away with the first-past-the-post voting system to conduct federal elections.

They may not agree on the fine print. The New Democrats have long championed a mixed proportional system and the Liberals tend to be partial to a preferential ballot. But they are on the same general page.

On Tuesday, Justin Trudeau pledged to introduce a new voting system in time for the 2019 election.

The New Democrats have advocated a more proportional voting regimen for decades.

With the Green party on side, the blocks of a large parliamentary consensus on electoral reform are falling into place.

It took a change of heart on the Liberals’ part to bring that about.

Such a change would have been unthinkable back when the party, under Jean Chrétien, was riding high and reaping the benefits of the first-past-the-post system against a divided right.

Even after they lost power to Stephen Harper’s Conservatives a decade ago, the Liberals continued to believe that the normal swing of the pendulum would inevitably see them back in power.

Three lost elections later, they are at least as likely to remain in third place as to form a government this fall.

Implicit in the party’s shift on electoral reform is a Liberal admission that the NDP’s competitive position is not a mere blip but rather a feature that it will have to adapt to.

In a three-way battle, the current winner-take-all-system favours the Conservatives.

That conclusion is only belatedly dawning on Trudeau’s party.

It has been more than three decades since the Liberals last won a governing majority against a united Conservative party.

Even with the wind in their backs, the New Democrats would also be hard-pressed to eke out a majority in October.

Win or lose next fall, electoral reform may offer both parties the best alternative to a merger at some point down the line, and — more importantly in the big picture for each of them — their best shot at preventing the Conservatives from becoming Canada’s de facto governing party.

Trudeau’s democratic reform package may not do much to turn the tide in his favour. Paul Martin and Michael Ignatieff tried and failed to impress voters with measures to fix the so-called democratic deficit in Parliament.

The excitement that electoral reform inspires among voters tends to be inversely proportional to the hype that surrounds the issue within the chattering class.

In the provinces where a plan for a different system was put to voters, the status quo prevailed.

But the expanding common ground between the opposition parties on electoral reform should be cause for concern for the Conservatives.

They would — at least initially — be the losers of a switch to a different electoral system. The division in the opposition vote has long been a key ingredient of their election victories.

In a three-way battle, the current winner-takes-all system favours the Conservatives.

It allowed Brian Mulroney to win a second majority mandate and the 1988 free trade battle.

Under Stephen Harper, a divided opposition vote has become even more essential to Conservative fortunes.

He is about to lead the party in his fourth election campaign as the incumbent with a persistent shortfall in support and precious little room to grow.

In a preferential voting system — where the second and third choices of voters are applied in each riding until a candidate reaches 50 per cent plus one — Harper’s re-election bid would be dead on arrival.

Alternatively, under a mixed proportional system, securing a majority government on a bit more than a third of the votes cast would become a thing of the past.

Coalition building would not come easily to the take-no-prisoner party that Harper has rebuilt in his image.

Should the NDP or the Liberals or a combination of both prevail next fall, they would have a common interest in following up on electoral reform.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: The trouble with spring break

Spring: the season for birds chirping, flowers blooming and ... teen pregnancy? **A five-year study of 838 pregnant teens** at an Ontario hospital found a “persistent” increase in conceptions every March. March break shenanigans are the obvious culprit, but one of the researchers says teenagers who couple up early in the school year are getting “serious” by spring. Adults, on the other hand, most often get pregnant in December — a testament to the power of eggnog and holiday cheer.

SOURCE: THE NATIONAL POST

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

The world’s believers have a moral duty to care for the earth

Pope Francis is donning a Captain Planet image — the environmental superhero taking pollution down (if not to zero).

In his most highly anticipated papal teaching to date, the Pope will today call on the world — not just Catholics like me — to act now to avoid “unprecedented destruction of the ecosystem,” based in part on a moral obligation to care for God’s creation.

It’s a claim that won’t make him any friends among the faithful who either don’t believe in climate change, or don’t buy into such a moral obligation. And for those in the environmental movement, it may seem criminally late in coming.

But Francis is far from the first — and far from alone — in arguing the environmental implications of faith.

The Dalai Lama tweeted this week that we need to “develop a sense of the oneness of humanity” in the face of climate change and global economic woes. More than 300 rabbis have signed a letter arguing for “a world of shared, sustainable abundance — eco-social justice.”

“The concept of stewardship on Earth is a shared belief” of all faiths, an imam with the Islamic Society of North America recently told Time magazine.

At the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale, co-founder John Grim and others have spent two decades retrieving the ecological teaching of the world’s religions — from Hinduism to indigenous faiths — and interpreting them for today.

Grim sees this as a pivotal moment — the first time a pope has been this pointed on the environment. It could even spur an interfaith environmental movement, he mused (despite inevitable pushback from the Jeb Bushes of the world).

Francis chose to be named after Francis of Assisi — known as the patron saint of ecology and revered for his love for nature and animals.

We may deem it radical for the Pope to say, as he does in a leaked draft, that the earth “is protesting for the wrong that we are doing to her, because of the irresponsible use and abuse of the goods that God has placed on her” — but that only shows how leaders and followers alike have ignored teachings inherent in our faith.

“The separation between religion and science has been so strong,” Grim noted.

And it’s well past time that ended.

We — the world’s six billion or so believers — are natural allies of the environmental movement. Time to take Francis’ lead, and act like it.

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Lana Del Rey posts sample of new album Honeymoon on Instagram

3 THINGS WE LEARNED ABOUT LOVE FROM AZIZ ANSARI

DATING

'Stud mentality' among guys on Tinder horrifies the comedian

Lakshmi Gandhi
Metro in New York

Fans who have closely followed former Parks and Recreation star Aziz Ansari's stand-up career have surely noticed that the comic has taken a serious turn in recent years. Gone are the cute stories about his cousins and the monologues on basic cable dramas.

Instead, the 32-year-old NYU grad has been focused on deeper questions: What is love? Is there such thing as a soulmate? And, most important of all, why hasn't he or she texted me back?

Co-written with sociology professor Eric Klinenberg, Modern Romance explores all of those questions and more, in an extensively researched journey that took the pair around the world as they assessed different dating profiles and wacky online dating messages. (Note to all of the guys out there, first messages that simply say "Yo" or "Hey" aren't particularly well received.)

We've rounded up the top three lessons we learned from Ansari's travels.

Too many choices really are overwhelming

Unlike a crowded bar, "online there are no lonely corners," the comedian writes. "Everywhere is filled with people looking to connect." Despite that, daters everywhere are constantly rejecting people.

The comedian memorably sits down with a twenty-something named Derek who, he notes, "isn't unattractive… but wouldn't necessarily turn heads at a party." Ansari then watches in horror as Derek swipes no on several attractive, interesting women who had messaged him online. "He didn't strike me as a stud," he adds, "but wow, when you watched him comb through those profiles, he had a stud mentality."

Remember the person on the other end is a person

Because so much of the modern search for romantic partners occurs on our phones, it's easy to forget you are talking to a person with feelings.

Ansari is disturbed by how easy it is to completely dismiss someone—especially now as breaking up via text becomes increasingly more common.

The quality of your dates is more important than the quantity

Back when Ansari was single in New York a few years ago, he had something of a revelation when it came to his single status. He and his friends "were consistently choosing to meet as many people as possible instead of investing in a relationship." Because this method obviously wasn't working for him, he decided to revise his approach to looking for love.

"What I found was that a first date that was a six was usually an eight on a second date," he writes. "I knew the person better and we kept building a good rapport together."

The lesson here? Maybe next time give that nice guy or girl you met online a second chance. It could change the course of your love life.

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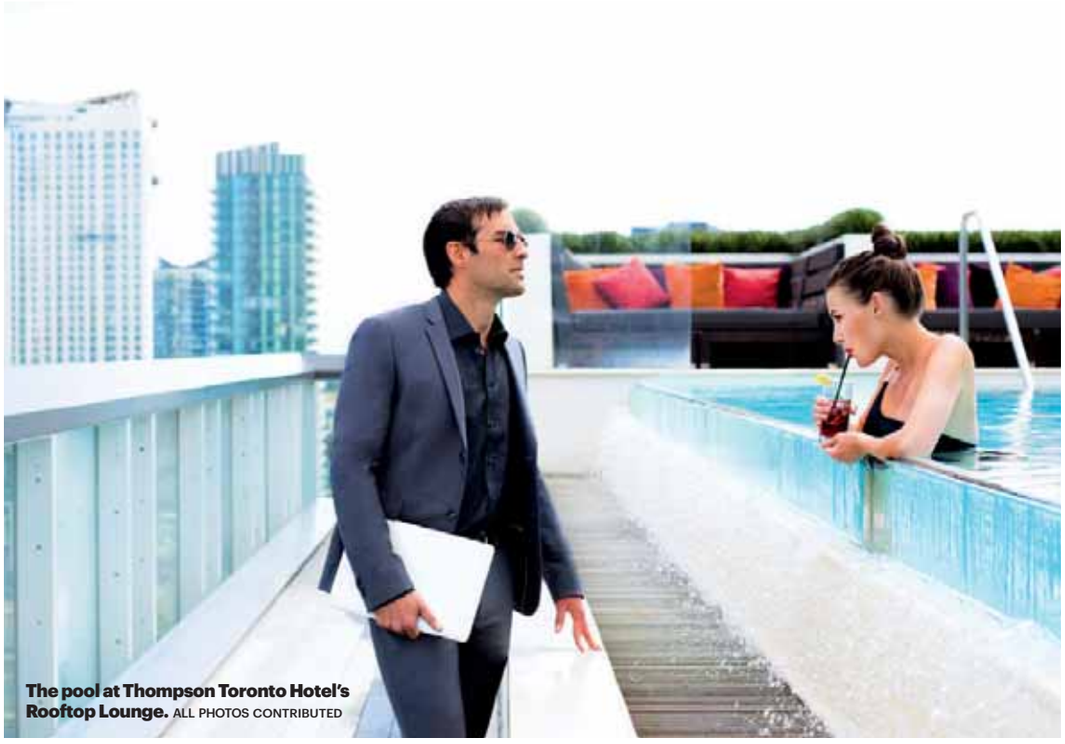
Did someone say pool party?



The pool at Thompson Toronto Hotel's Rooftop Lounge. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Summer's about to hit full swing. What better way to celebrate the return of sultry weather than with a poolside party? Whether you're attending a swanky barbecue or throwing your own bash, here are some items you'll need.

JESSE SHIP/FOR METRO

1 Flask | Areaware bracelet flask

Too caught up in a convo to make it to the drinks table? Don't worry, Areaware's got you covered with their bracelet flask. Just slip one off your wrist and pour an emergency ounce of Ontario's Dillon's Rose Gin into your cup. **($24.85-$48, areaware.com)**

2 Gift/ Serving dish | Vegetabowls

Fruit and salads are far from boring when served in New York state's Vegetabowls, with inner and outer moulds cast directly from actual produce. The designs will have your friends coming back for seconds, or just to feel the realistic outer skin. **($28-$70, vegetabowls.com)**

3 Sangria | Our Daily Red

Our Daily Red 2013 Blend is an organic wine with no detectable sulfites. Stir up this vegan California flavour with chunks of your favourite organic fruit and the requisite sangria ingredients for the perfect poolside punch. **(see local wine shop for pricing, ourdailyred.com)**

4 Slip-ons | Free People's Idlewild braided leather footbed

Slides are all the rage this summer and will complement your manicured toes. You could get away with a basic pair from Chinatown, but we suggest Free People's Idlewild Footbed. Made from artisan-crafted braided leathers, you'll be stylish and extra comfortable poolside. **($168, freepeople.com)**

5 Bathing Suit | Ted Baker Primie

Step aside, bikinis—the one-piece is back and better than ever. Ted Baker's Primie palm floral print is super flattering with removable straps and moulded cups that offer curve-enhancing support for your silhouette. This number will have you feeling like you're escaping to the tropics ... even if you're really just at the neighbour's pool next door. **($140, tedbaker.com)**

It's like Taken, with a twist

FICTION

Literary thriller features search for two missing daughters — but no action heroes

BOOKWORM

Sue Carter

If you're reminded of Liam Neeson's reluctant everyman heroics while reading James Grainger's new novel Harmless, that's no accident. Published by McClelland & Stewart, the literary thriller leads readers into familiar cinematic territory before twisting the story into a kneecapping critique of masculinity.

Seven years in the writing, Harmless grew out of a short story featuring similar characters from Grainger's earlier work. He kept returning to "a certain generation who are stuck in life. Typical Gen-Xers; very ironic and self-deprecating, living with reduced expectations about income and life in general."

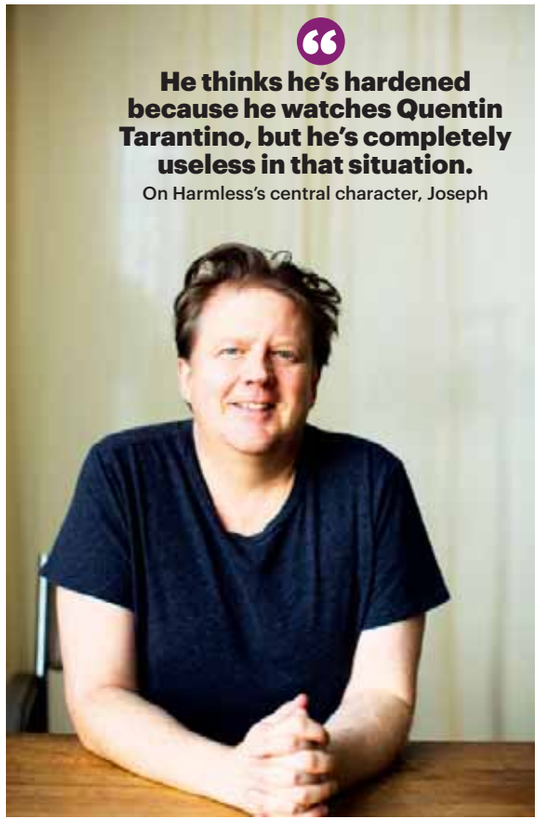
But the Toronto author was tired of writing about people who are all talk — he was ready for his characters to finally take action over their lives. Grainger knew his novel would take place at a reunion of old friends — former party kids, many of whom hadn't completely abandoned their youthful hedonism, despite now being 40-something parents.

So Grainger asked himself, "What would have to happen to these people to unstick them? It would have to be something really terrible."

The worst thing he could think of? Have their children vanish.

Inspired, Grainger constructed a plot outline, something he had never done before. Set tautly over a day and night, Harmless follows Joseph, a self-absorbed divorced arts columnist, who arrives sweating out alcohol for a family weekend away with his teenage daughter, Franny, at a farm owned by his former lover, Jane, and her husband, Alex, whose earthy confidence sets him up as the foil to Joseph's navel-gazing anxiety.

While the adults party — which leads to a major "anvil drop" in the story — Franny goes missing along with Alex's daughter, Rebecca, which sets the two men off into the surrounding woods.

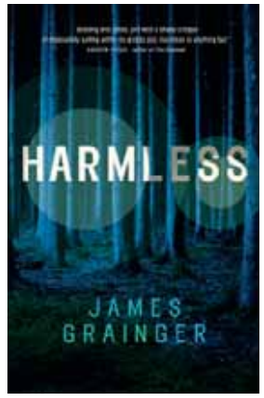


He thinks he's hardened because he watches Quentin Tarantino, but he's completely useless in that situation.

On Harmless's central character, Joseph

James Grainger's new novel centres on 40-something former party kids faced with a tragic situation. HANDOUT

"As I was writing, I thought, 'This is what always happens halfway through a thriller or horror movie.' And I realized the characters would be thinking that too because they would have seen literally thousands of movies," says Grainger, who employed strict screenwriting "beats" to the plot.



"I thought it would be fun and terrifying to put the main character in the middle of a tragedy and have him realize that he's seen this tragedy in hundreds of movies."

Although the men encounter coyotes, destroy a porn shack with father-like vengeance, and track down a drug grow-op protected by men hardwired to protect their investment at any cost, Joseph never transforms into an action star.

"In film, there is the promised relief of the terror or tension that the hero is going to discover within his or herself these reserves of morality, which will then translate to physical strength. But if you can't fight, you can't fight," says Grainger.

"We've seen thousands of hours of violence and Joseph hasn't been in a fight since he was like 19. He thinks he's hardened because he watches Quentin Tarantino, but he's completely useless in that situation, as most people would be. I know I would be."

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Beastie Boys win legal fees

Adam Yauch, who died in 2012, is shown performing with Mike Diamond and Adam Horowitz in 2004. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

LICENSING

Monster is on the line to cover costs after losing lawsuit

The maker of the Monster Energy drink must pay $668,000 of the Beastie Boys' legal fees after the rappers chose to win at all costs in their copyright violation trial, a decision that resulted in a $1.7 million jury verdict in their favour, a judge says.

U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer wrote in a ruling Monday that his review of the band's legal bills suggests that the "Beastie Boys opted to pay for, and received, the Cadillac Escalade, not the Honda Civic" of legal representation.

He said his attorney fee award fell short of the $2.4 million sought from Monster, but was still enough for the band to come out ahead by more than $532,000 above its reasonable costs.

Last June, the Beastie Boys won their verdict from a federal jury weighing the value of five songs used by Monster without authorization in a video.

Engelmayer wrote that the lawsuit brought by two surviving Beastie Boys and the wife of deceased band member Adam "MCA" Yauch resulted in a hard-fought legal match. "

"Monster's commercial exploitation of the band's music and songs, and what the Beastie Boys perceived as Monster's crass misappropriation of the name of the recently deceased Yauch in its video promoting its energy drinks, appeared to have deeply offended plaintiffs."

Yauch died of cancer in May 2012 at age 47. The judge said Beastie Boys' band members Adam Horovitz and Michael Diamond approached the case "with special zeal," testifying that as a matter of principle they have not licensed their music for product advertisements and would have turned down Monster if it had asked for permission. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DATE NIGHT

Harry Styles and yet another model

IN HOLLYWOOD
Ned Ehrbar

Ah, to be young, rich, famous and affably floppy-haired. Must be nice. Though Harry Styles spent much of the first half of this year romantically linked — by anonymous sources, at least — to Victoria's Secret model Nadine Leopold, he's apparently now more interested in one of her colleagues. Fellow model Sara Sampaio (pictured) joined Styles for a dinner date in New York recently that allegedly turned into a slumber party. "She came over to his hotel. They grabbed dinner. Hugged and kissed goodbye," a remarkably Hemingway-esque source tells E! News.

"Then she came back and slept over. She left at 11 a.m. in the same clothes." Maybe she just really, really liked that outfit?

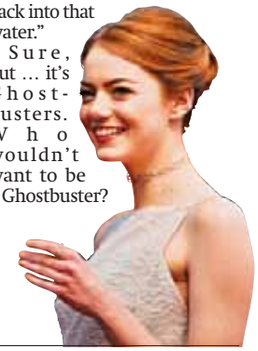
GHOSTBUSTERS

Who you gonna call? Not Emma

Emma Stone confesses to WSJ Magazine that she passed up the chance to be on the new all-female Ghostbusters team led by Kristen Wiig and Melissa McCarthy. Excuse me?

"The script was really funny. It just didn't feel like the right time for me. A franchise is a big commitment — it's a whole thing," she says. "I think maybe I need a minute before I dive back into that water."

Sure, but … it's Ghostbusters. Who wouldn't want to be a Ghostbuster?



JAMES BOND

All bets appear to be on Damian Lewis

Man, Daniel Craig must be getting tired of everyone always talking about when he's going to be done with playing James Bond.

First there was all that Idris Elba talk, now this: A British bookmaker says the best odds at the moment are on Homeland star Damian Lewis being tapped as the next 007, according to the Telegraph.

"Bets have been placed on him succeeding Daniel Craig. This is an unprecedented gamble, as for no apparent reason we have seen bets up to £200 on Damian Lewis being named as the next James Bond. This might well be significant," William Hill tells the newspaper.

"Damian Lewis hadn't seen interest in the betting until this weekend, but an absolute landslide in bets has forced us to cut the odds."

Damian Lewis

Sure, but if he gets the part does that mean all the films will be about whether or not we can really trust him?

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metro HOME
Your essential daily news
Classic blue and white hues are inspiring the latest interior design trends

What they're a$king

OUR CITY

Semi-detached, single-attached, half-duplex, side-by-side — two homes joined by a wall down the middle are known by different names across Canada. Here's a look at three-bedroom, resale semis that make great starter homes. **Duncan McAllister** FOR METRO

$399,000

Ottawa

Here's a fully renovated, semi-detached home at 116 Stirling Ave., in the trendy downtown neighbourhood of Hintonburg. It's located one block from all the great shops on Wellington Street, and a five-minute walk to rapid transit. Recent updates include a gas furnace, new windows, doors, and flooring, as well as the main roof. The home would be a good opportunity for first-time buyers to move into this hipster 'hood, says Kerry Milican, sales representative with Royal LePage Team Realty, 613-290-2990.

$1,448,000

Vancouver

Here's a high-quality house in Central Lonsdale, North Vancouver's hot spot, with new stores and restaurants, quaint coffee shops and other amenities within walking distance. The home offers a spacious, open floor plan, with soaring ceilings, a large kitchen, and a family room that opens out to a deck and fenced private yard. A school is around the corner, as well as parks and playgrounds. Listing agents Paula Vendargon (604-626-1649) and Colin Vendargon (604-984-9711) are associates with Royal LePage Sussex Real Estate.

$599,000

Toronto

This west-end home boasts many upgrades, such as a custom-designed kitchen with granite countertops, hardwood floors and crown moldings. There's also two new bathrooms, a new gas furnace, thermal windows, a stainless-steel fridge, stove, built-in dishwasher, finished basement with in-law suite with a separate entrance, laundry room and double-car garage. The house is close to transit, schools and parks. John Marques is a salesperson with Re/Max Ultimate Realty Brokerage, 416-656-3500.

$299,900

Halifax

This well-maintained house north of downtown Halifax that has been built by a reputable developer features bright, open rooms, a spacious eat-in kitchen, large deck and backyard. There are hardwood floors in the living and dining rooms, a powder room on the main level, and the master bedroom has a three-piece ensuite. The lower level has a rec room, laundry, and a garage with a small work area. The driveway has room for two cars. Listing agent is Sandy Rutledge from Domus Realty, 902-497-5500.

$219,900

Winnipeg

Here's a bright and sunny two-storey home on a quiet street. The pie-shaped lot offers a large, fenced-in backyard with access to a rear pathway and a large storage shed. In a convenient location for getting around the city, the house includes a fridge, stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer, and a finished basement with a rec room. Listing agent Blair Holm says the house has been well maintained by current and previous owners. Holm is an associate with Sutton Group Kilkenny Real Estate, 204-475-9130.

$329,900

Edmonton

Here's a turnkey, move-in ready home in a family-oriented community. It's on a quiet street next to walking trails and with close access to schools, shopping, and the new Meadows Recreation Centre. The house features many upgrades, include new carpet, wide laminate flooring, new blinds throughout, granite countertops, and a new upstairs bathroom. There's a south-facing backyard with a deck and a double garage. Beverley Hasinoff is a sales representative with Liv Real Estate, 780-619-0812.

5 WAYS TO CREATE A BEACHY HOME

Interior designer Anna Örnberg shares her know-how in her new book, The Nautical Home: Coastline-Inspired Ideas to Decorate with Seaside Spirit. Even the smallest apartments can invoke a maritime aesthetic thanks to Örnberg's DIY projects. Here are five that ditch the city for the sea. **ASIA EWARD** FOR METRO IN NEW YORK

1 Framed

Sand a mirror frame with sandpaper and wipe it down with denatured alcohol. Bind the edges of hawser rope with twine and glue it to the frame. Nail in some brads to secure the rope. Attach hemp rope on sides to finish it off.

2 Tie one on

For inexpensive curtains, take a burlap weave, soak it in a tub of water, and leave it in a pile to dry for that wrinkled effect. To complete the look, use hawser rope as a tieback.

TOMMY DURATH PHOTOS

3 Experience the seven seas

To dress up a dresser in sea charts, clean it and sand it with sandpaper. Next, paint the dresser with primer. For parts not covered in charts, add two coats of interior paint. Cut the appropriate-sized pieces of chart, apply wallpaper paste and stick the pieces firmly and flatly on the dresser. Dry for 24 hours and apply clear, non-yellowing, water-based varnish.

4 A light touch

Örnberg uses large shells to hold candles and act as beachy lanterns. Place the shell lanterns together in a dish covered in sand. Wedging the "lanterns" deep in the sand will keep them upright until they burn out.

5 Shell showcase

Collect your beach treasures, such as shells or stones, in large glass jars or under glass domes, "and leave them around as eye candy," Örnberg says in the book.

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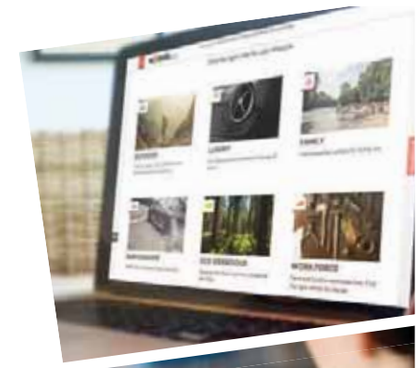

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Cowboys owner Jerry Jones says he wants disgruntled Dez Bryant to spend his career in Dallas

IN BRIEF

GM takes blame for Reds Sox's subpar performance

Boston Red Sox general manager Ben Cherington said he deserves most of the blame with his club struggling for the second straight year.

Entering Wednesday, Boston is 99-129 since winning the 2013 World Series under manager John Farrell.

"I'm more responsible than anyone else for that," Cherington said, "so I have to find a way to make that better."

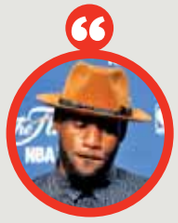
The Red Sox, in last place in the AL East for the second straight season, entered Wednesday 10 games under .500 and eight games behind division-leading Tampa Bay. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Champs touch back down in Golden State

The Golden State Warriors are back in the Bay Area as NBA champions for the first time in 40 years.

With more than 100 team employees in yellow and blue shirts cheering them outside a private terminal, the Warriors were welcomed back to Oakland on Wednesday with the Larry O'Brien Trophy in hand. The team spent Tuesday night in Cleveland after beating LeBron James and the Cavaliers 105-97 in the Game 6 clincher.

Regular-season MVP Stephen Curry came off the plane first, lifting the gold title trophy as he walked down the stairs, followed by NBA Finals MVP Andre Iguodala. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



If I could have gave more, I would have done it, but I gave everything I had.

LeBron James after Tuesday night's loss in Cleveland. James finished with 32 points, 18 rebounds and nine assists in Game 6.

Cards lawyer says higher ups not involved in hacking

SCANDAL IN ST. LOUIS

Team execs say they're co-operating with investigation

High-level executives of the St. Louis Cardinals were not involved in the hacking of the Houston Astros' player personnel database, an attorney hired by the team said Wednesday, citing an internal review.

The Cardinals said they retained the Dowd Bennett firm for a review several months before this week's disclosure that the FBI is investigating whether the team hacked into the Astros' computer system that is used to track players and prospects.

"With what we have done so far, I am 100 per cent confident that this does not touch upper management and does not involve people like John Mozeliak and Bill DeWitt," Jim Martin, an attorney for the firm said. Mozeliak is the Cardinals' general manager and DeWitt is the team chairman.

Martin said he was retained in February.

The FBI has declined to confirm it is investigating the Cardinals, but a person familiar with the investigation told the AP that federal authorities are investigating whether members of the team were to blame for what Major League Baseball called a "breach" of the Astros database. There has been no indication of how many employees might be under investigation and Martin's comments were the first to suggest that any wrongdoing could be limited to the lower levels of the Cardinals organization.

The internal investigation is not finished.

"We are committed to getting to the bottom of this matter as soon as possible," DeWitt said. "And if anyone within our organization is determined to be involved in anything inappropriate, they will be held accountable." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GROUND CONTROL

The hack was first reported in June 2014 after trade talk was published online. The Astros rely heavily on analytics in evaluating players and use an online database called Ground Control to house proprietary information. Jeff Luhnow, who headed the Cardinals' scouting and player development department, was hired as the Astros GM in December 2011 helping turn the team into an AL contender.

Luhnow said last year the Astros were working with the FBI and MLB security to determine who was responsible for the breach.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

FRANCE FROLICS PAST MEXICO France's Wendie Renard celebrates scoring against Mexico during Wednesday's Women's World Cup match at Lansdowne Stadium in Ottawa.

Marie Delie scored off a header 34th seconds in, the second-fastest goal in the history of the Women's World Cup, and France routed Mexico 5-0 to win Group F on goal difference over England, which beat Colombia 2-1 in Montreal.

Coming off a 2-0 loss to Colombia, France (2-1) scored three times in the first 13 minutes. The only Women's World Cup goal faster than Delie's following the opening kickoff was by Sweden's Lena Videkull against Japan in 1991.

France will play the second-place team from Group E on Sunday in the round of 16. Brazil topped Costa Rica 1-0 and South Korea topped Spain 2-1 later on Wednesday.

NICHOLAS KAMM/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Canada to face Switzerland in knockout phase

Canada will meet Switzerland in the round of 16 at the Women's World Cup.

A tournament official confirmed the matchup Wednesday, the last day of pool play at the 24-country tournament.

As Group A winner, Canada meets the third-place finisher from Group C, D, or E on Sunday at B.C. Place Stadium.

That makes for 15 permutations but with the Netherlands, in Group A, and Switzerland, in Group C, guaranteed to be two of the four third-place finishers moving on, that reduces the number of permutations to six.

And in every one of those cases, Canada faces Switzerland.

The Swiss (1-2-0) are ranked 19th in the world, compared to No. 8 for Canada (1-0-2).

The Canadian women have played Switzerland four times, with three victories and one draw. Their last meeting was a 2-0 win for Canada at the 2013 Cyprus Cup.

It's Switzerland's first trip to the World Cup. Coach Martina Voss-Teckleburg's team lost 1-0 to Japan and 2-1 to Cameroon but thumped Ecuador 10-1.

The Canada-Switzerland winner will meet England or Norway in the quarter-finals.

The Dutch (four points, zero goal differential) and Swiss (three points, plus-seven) are guaranteed of going through because their numbers are better than the third-place finishers in Group B (Thailand, three points, minus-seven) and Group D (Sweden, three points, zero).

The top four third-place finishers from the six groups advance, along with the group winners and runners-up.

The 2015 tournament, expanded to 24 teams from 16, marks only the second time that Canada has advanced out of the group stage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conn Smythe winner Duncan Keith and his family pose with the Stanley Cup on Monday. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

NHL

Babies in Cup show 'Hawks all grown up

Before there was champagne in the Stanley Cup, there were babies.

Many Chicago Blackhawks players celebrated with their young children. Around the ice there was Duncan Keith's two-year-old son, Bryan Bickell's 10-month-old daughter, Brad Richards's eight-month-old son, Andrew Desjardins' six-month-old son and Kris Versteeg's newborn son.

The scene underscored to team president John McDonough just how much time had passed since the Blackhawks' first Cup in 2010. "To see these guys mature into young adults, into grown men ... most of our guys when I started here were single," McDonough said. "Now there's babies all over the place."

When Chicago won five years ago, the team was full of babies — at least in NHL terms. Conn Smythe winner Jonathan Toews and defenceman Niklas Hjalmarsson had just turned 22, Patrick Kane was 21, Bickell 23 and Brent Seabrook 24.

"It doesn't feel like a long time but it's been a long time," Toews said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Leicester cuts trio over video of apparent orgy

English Premier League club Leicester fired three players on Wednesday over a video showing them in an apparent orgy with Thai sex workers, one of whom was racially abused.

Manager Nigel Pearson's son James, Adam Smith and Tom Hopper had their contracts terminated on Wednesday after the team concluded its investigation into the incident on a post-season tour of Thailand. The video was obtained last month by British newspaper The Sunday Mirror. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manziel: Persona took over my life

NFL

QB ends silence after rehab, vows money sign is in past

Johnny Football became more than Johnny Manziel could handle.

"It just overtook who I was as a person," the Cleveland Browns quarterback said Wednesday.

Speaking to the media for the first time since spending 10 weeks in a rehab facility, the polarizing Manziel said he's hoping to move past a regrettable chapter in his life. While he didn't divulge the reasons for his stay in a Pennsylvania substance-abuse facility, Manziel acknowledged he got caught up trying to live up to a persona he helped create.

"I think at times Johnny Football probably took over me a little bit and I bought into that," Manziel said following the team's second mandatory mini-camp practice. "I didn't do my best to hush things down, push down the hype. At times I welcomed it with immaturity and just accepted that a little bit — and that's my fault."

One of the changes the former Heisman Trophy winner from Texas A&M intends to make is scrapping his trademark money sign, when he rubs his fingers together after a big play.

Quarterback Johnny Manziel was back taking snaps at a Browns mini-camp in Berea, Ohio, Wednesday. DAVID RICHARD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The money sign will not be back," he said. "I will not be making it out there."

Manziel opened his remarks by thanking reporters for respecting his privacy and he acknowledged Browns coach Mike Pettine, owner Jimmy Haslam and others with the Browns who "helped me out through a difficult time."

The 22-year-old didn't duck any questions and he reiterated that he was the one responsible for "a disaster" of a rookie season in the NFL.

> **I'm trying to close that chapter in my life — not one that I'm very proud of.**
> Johnny Manziel

"At the end of the day, everything that happened last year is not on anybody else but myself," said Manziel, who made two starts last season. "I guess I wasn't prepared to handle the type of spotlight that I got, and all the hype that came with it."

Manziel will enter training camp next month in the same place he was last summer — as a backup. He's now behind Josh McCown on Cleveland's depth chart, and there's no guarantee Manziel will ever become a starter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Thai Coleslaw

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

This bright and sweet coleslaw will be the hit of your next summer celebration. Makes eight servings.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 3 cups thinly sliced green cabbage
- 3 cups thinly sliced red cabbage
- 1 cup sliced snow peas
- 1 cup sliced sweet red peppers
- 1/2 cup chopped green onions
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup diced dried apricots
- 1/3 cup light coconut milk
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh coriander
- 2 tsp fish or oyster sauce
- 2 tsp packed brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp minced fresh ginger
- 1/4 cup hot pepper sauce

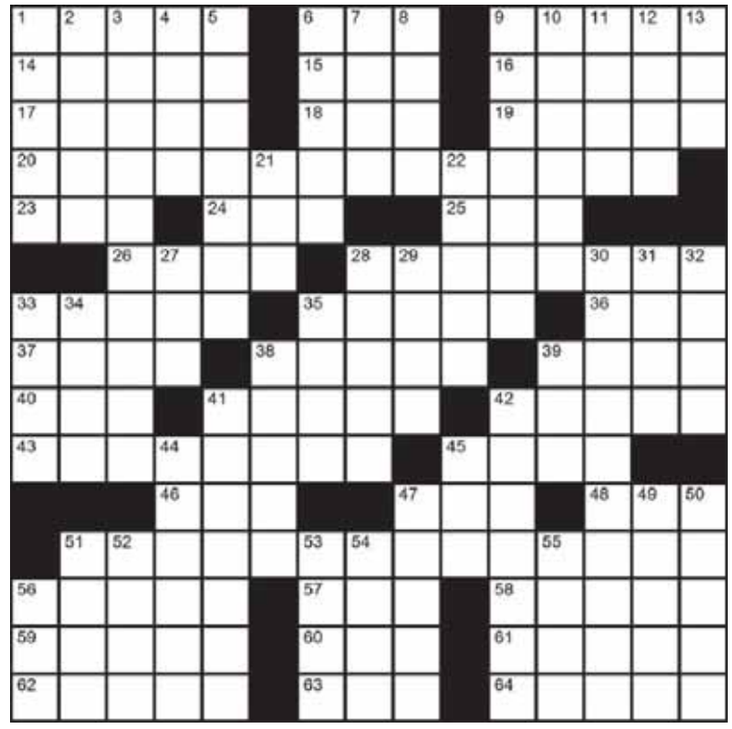
Directions
1. In a large bowl, stir together cabbages, snow peas, red peppers, green onions, cranberries and apricots.
2. In a small bowl, whisk together coconut milk, coriander, fish sauce, brown sugar, lemon juice, garlic, ginger, and hot pepper sauce. Pour over cabbage mixture; toss to coat.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 65
- Carbohydrates 13 g
- Protein 1.6 g
- Fat 0.7 g
- Cholesterol 0 mg
- Sodium 129 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "__ Street" by Gerry Rafferty
6. Get weaponry
9. Permitted in law
14. Sainte-__, Quebec
15. James or Hudson
16. "Bust _ __" by Young MC
17. They form rooms
18. Disposed
19. Up an auction offer
20. Survive as a prepper would: 4 wds.
23. Mister, in India
24. Illuminated
25. Cartoonist Mr. Smythe
26. Church area
28. Since-1859 village in the Cariboo Mountains area of British Columbia
33. Pool buildup
35. Face, as an embankment
36. Mr. Marvin of films
37. Baltic country, for short
38. Dominated
39. Volcanic flow
40. Horoscope sign
41. Drive
42. Orbital point
43. Liquid dish soap brand
45. Fit
46. Keats specialty
47. Lady's pronoun
48. Can. leaders
51. Burton Cummings song: 5 wds.
56. Highway crossing animal
57. __-hat
58. Neutral paint colour
59. Does some gardening
60. And not
61. "There is a house __ __ Orleans / They call the Rising Sun..."
62. Hagar the Horrible's dog
63. Ms. Leoni
64. Shelters for pigeons

DOWN
1. Has a really good cry
2. Irish tune: "Robin __"
3. Saskatchewan town dubbed 'Canada's Hockey Factory'
4. Australian model Ms. Macpherson
5. Settle a dispute
6. Rearward, on the ocean
7. Captivated
8. Ancient tale
9. Most big
10. Surface
11. Desert in Mongolia
12. Enthusiastic
13. Headed
21. Giant's cry!
22. Miscalculated
27. "Fan-tast-ic!"
28. Bound-to-the-land person of ancient Sparta
29. Ended
30. Canadian police series of 2008 to 2012
31. Matthew the Apostle
32. 'For' votes
33. '__ fair in love and war'
34. In __ of (Replacing)
35. Baseball legend Babe
38. Vancouver-born actor Seth
39. CD predecessors
41. Region of The States
42. Like a class workout in a gym
44. Not as tight
45. Fulfilled
47. Multi-headed beast of myth
49. "Me and Bobby __" by Janis Joplin
50. Distorts
51. Groan
52. Oxen harness
53. Will antonym
54. Succulent plant
55. City in Nevada
56. "__. Doubtfire" (1993)

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Information that could be worth a lot of money will come your way today. You may be tempted to pass on what you learn to your friends but if you are smart you will keep it to yourself. Knowledge is power — and profit too.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
In just a few days your view of the world will change for the better and your current negative attitude will fade away. Focus on the many good things in your life rather than the few things that have gone wrong.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Recent cosmic activity has tested you to the limit and because you've been on the go from morning to night you may now be exhausted. If so, take the next few days off. The universe can go on without you for a bit.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Look back over the previous year and decide which of your ambitions to leave in the past and which you can take with you into the future. Dream, but be ruthlessly realistic as well.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Make the most of the good things that happen today and tomorrow because over the weekend the atmosphere will change and you may not be quite so happy. A time for thinking rather than doing is approaching.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
What is most important in your life? The money you make? The status you enjoy? Those things may be important in the short-term but over the course of a lifetime it's the love you give that makes all the difference. What will you give today?

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The sun's stay in the adventurous area of your chart ends at the weekend, so make the next few days a time of discovery. Not that you won't be able to discover things after but you will have responsibilities to deal with.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may not like what you have to do now but the sooner you get it done the sooner you can move on. The sun's entry into your fellow water sign of Cancer on Sunday marks a turning point in your fortunes.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Try not to take it personally if people do not agree with your point of view. If they get the impression you're thin-skinned they will focus on it. Be bold in your own beliefs and accepting of alternative points of view.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have covered a lot of ground in recent weeks and you will cover a lot more in the months to come. For best results though you need to stop being such a loner and join with those who share your interests.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
So many good things have happened of late that you may believe you'll be lucky forever. Know from past experience that is unlikely to be true. Life moves in cycles, so enjoy the highs but look out for the next low.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Act decisively today. Make sure that what has been started finally gets finished. Problems of a purely personal nature have taken up too much of your time and energy in recent weeks, so resolve them and move on.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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